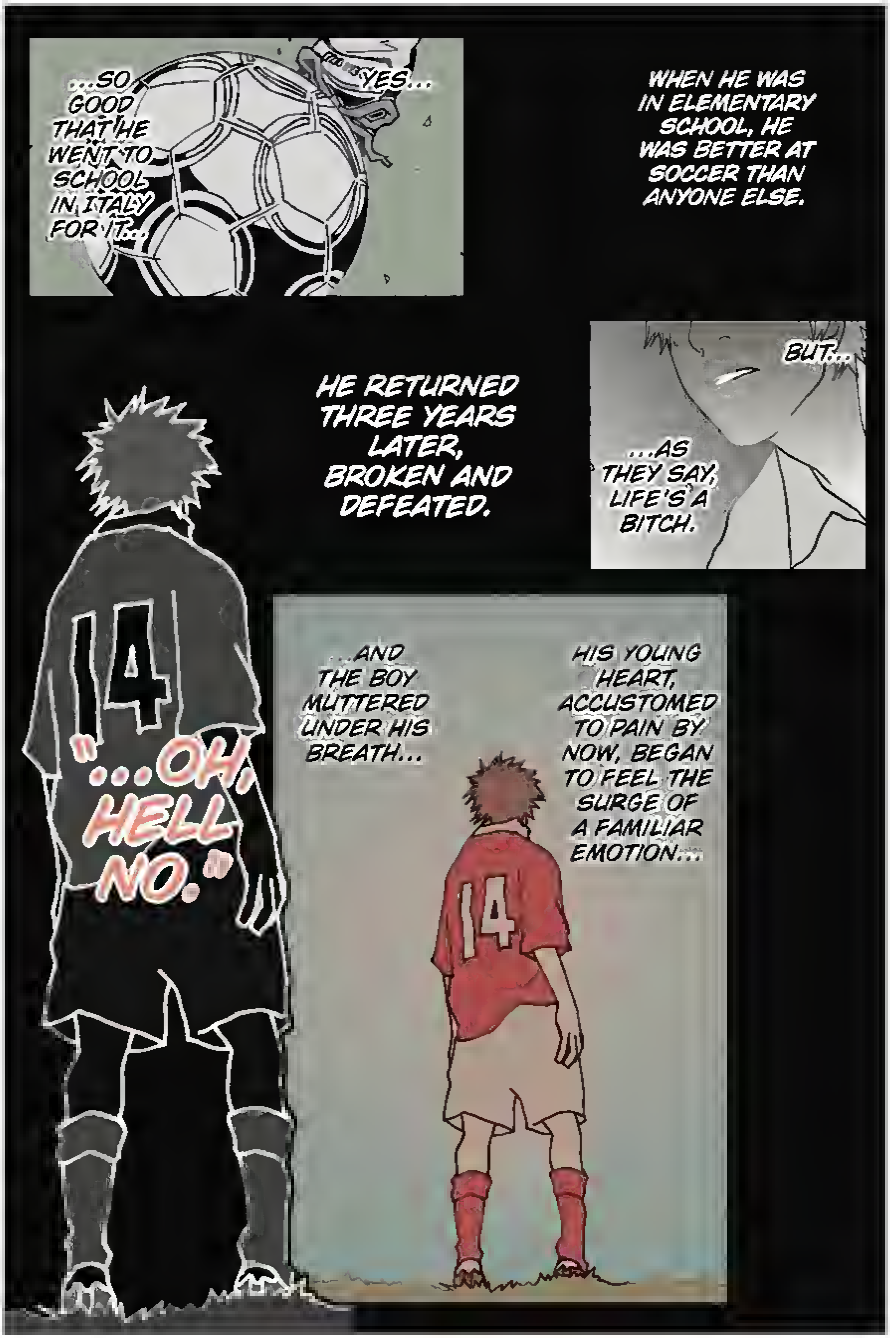
#01
SASAMEKE
Presented by RYUUJI×GOTOU-O


...SO GOOD THAT HE WENT TO SCHOOL IN ITALY FOR IT...
YES...
WHEN HE WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HE WAS BETTER AT SOCCER THAN ANYONE ELSE.
BUT...
...AS THEY SAY, LIFE'S A BITCH.
HE RETURNED THREE YEARS LATER, BROKEN AND DEFEATED.
14
"...OH, HELL NO."
...AND THE BOY MUTTERED UNDER HIS BREATH...
HIS YOUNG HEART, ACCUSTOMED TO PAIN BY NOW, BEGAN TO FEEL THE SURGE OF A FAMILIAR EMOTION...
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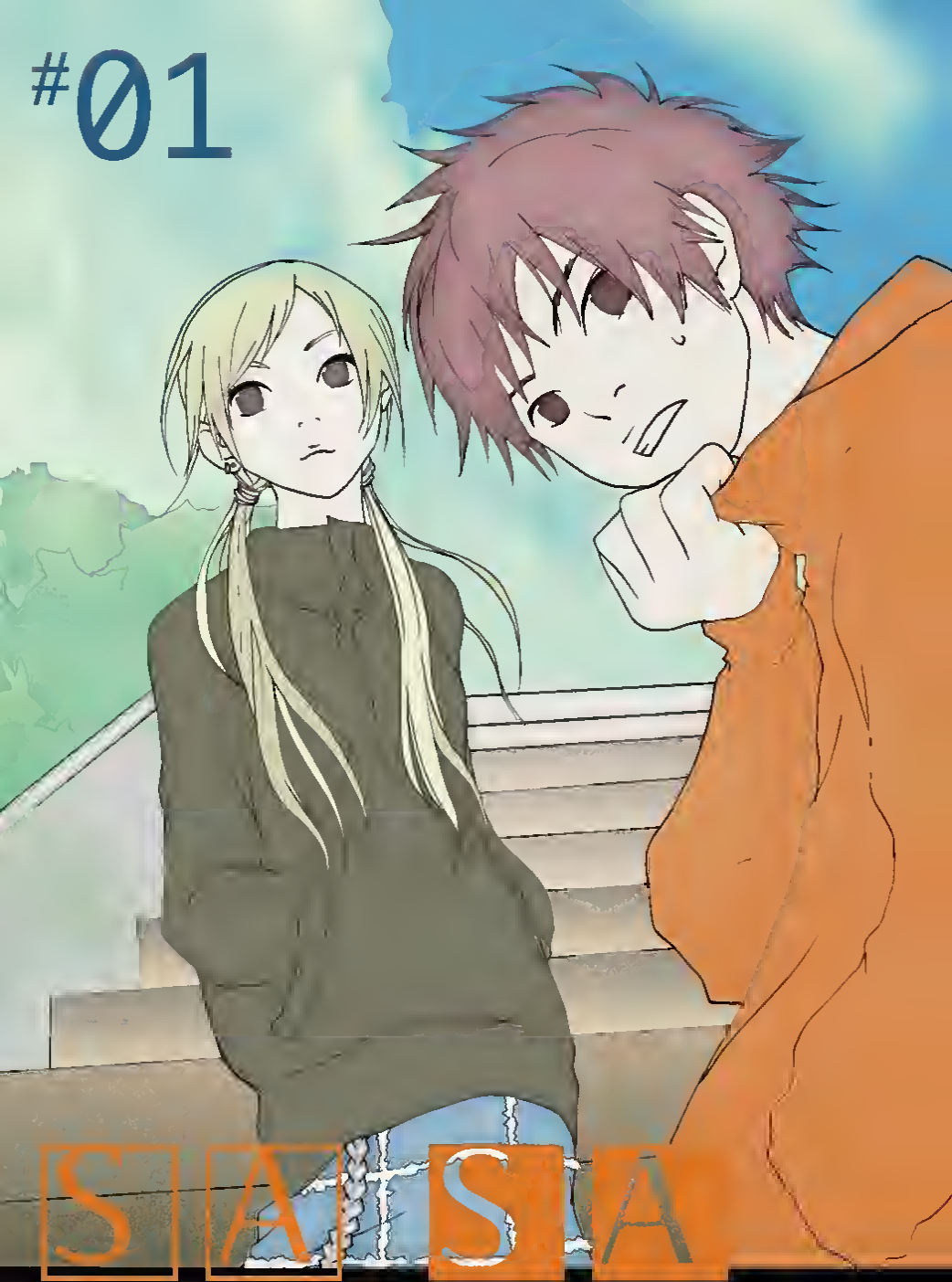
#01

SASAMEKE

RYUJI X GOTSUBO

MEKE
GOTSUBO

#01



SASA

RYUJIX

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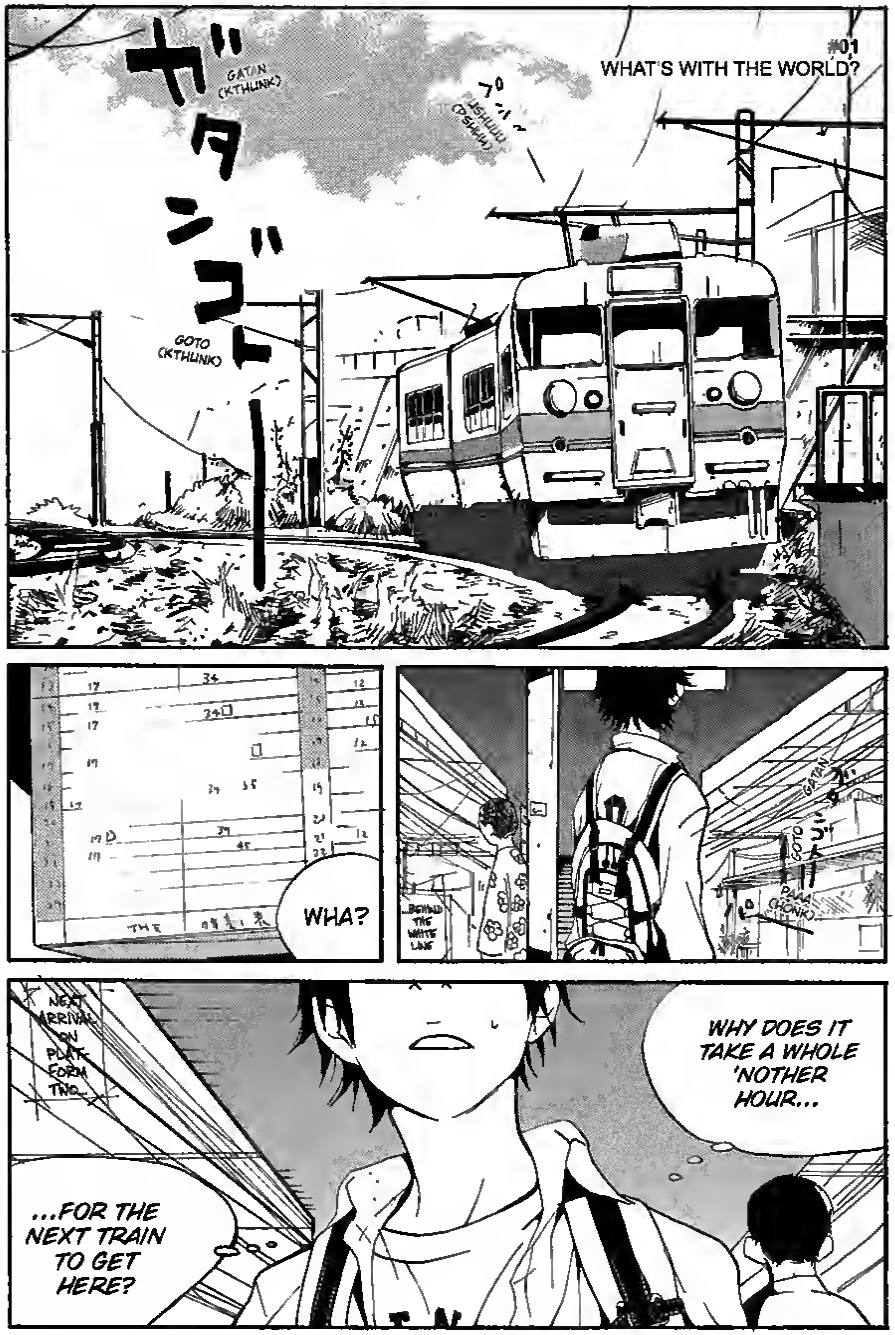

#01
WHAT'S WITH THE WORLD?
GATAN (KTHUNK)
GOTO (KTHUNK)
WHA?
...BEHIND THE WHITE LINE
PAAA (HONK)
NEXT ARRIVAL ON PLATFORM TWO...
...FOR THE NEXT TRAIN TO GET HERE?
WHY DOES IT TAKE A WHOLE 'NOTHER HOUR...

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
MAKE SOME PROGRESS, PEOPLE
A TEXT... WHO'S IT FROM?
PI (BEEP)
YAWN...
SIGH... WHAT NOW?
BEEP *BEEP* *BEEP*

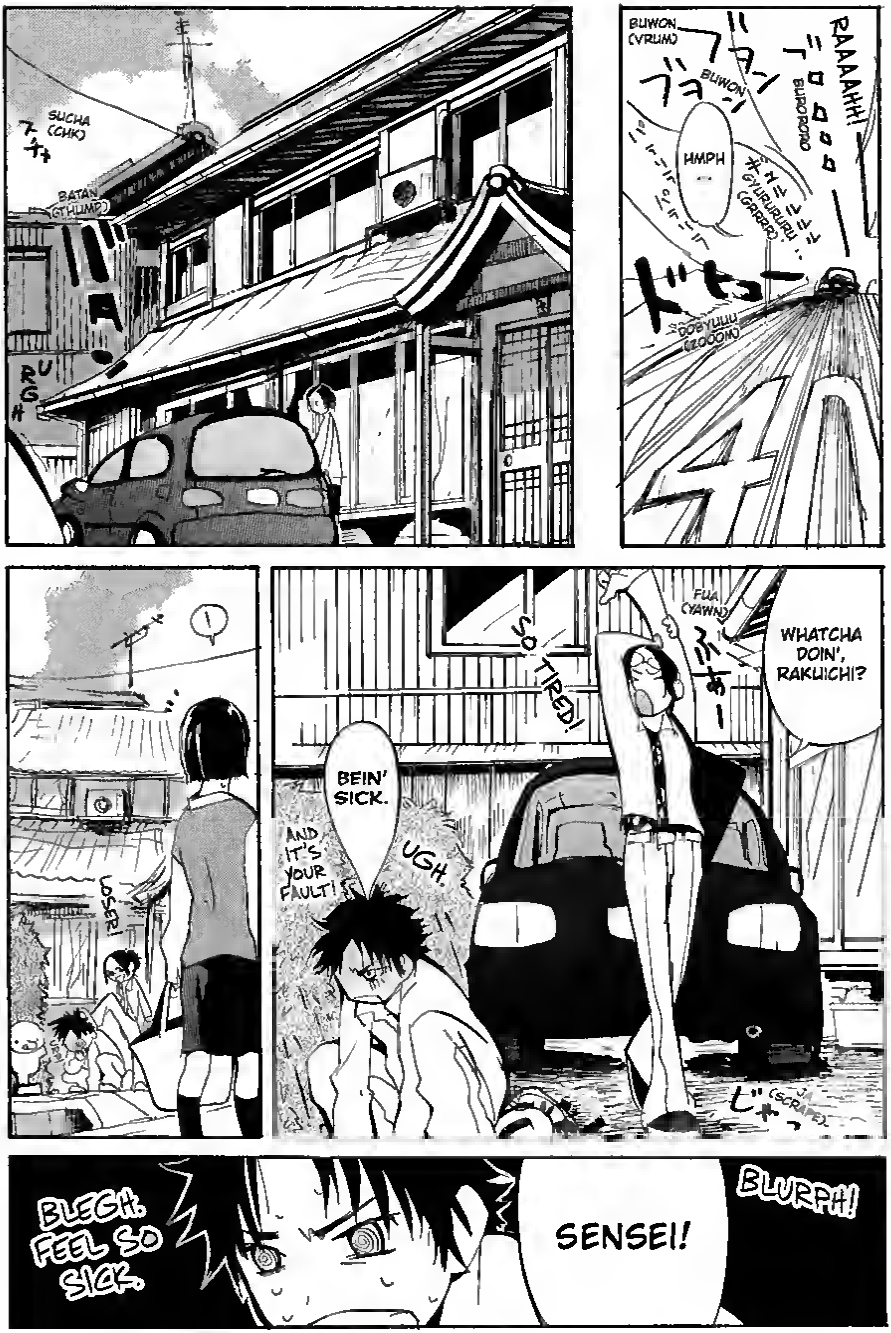
PHONE: SPECIAL ORDERS. HEY KID! FOLLOW WHAT I TELL YOU LIKE A DAMN DOG.

SPECIAL ORDERS...?
"LEAVE THE STATION, WALK FIVE YARDS TO THE LEFT.
"CROSS THE STREET ...
BO (BRRM)
BO
BO
BO
BO
BO
"...WHILE WALKING UPSIDE DOWN ON YOUR HANDS BUTT-NAKED, TURN AROUND THREE TIMES AND BARK LIKE A DOG...
"...THEN STUFF YOURSELF SILLY BY SNORTING SPAGHETTI UP YOUR NOSE, YOU DUMB SCHMUCK."
SU (SWSH)
BUWON (VRUM)
A FRANK?
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

BUWON (VRUMM)
GOTCHA...
NGWA!?
KIDNAPPER!
GYAHAHAHA! (GRRAHAHA)
GAGA (GRRK)
!!?
BA (WAP)
...PUNK!!
GOCHIN (GRK)
BABA (SWISHH)
BUWON
PUN (VRUM)
ZUKA (GLAMM)
HI HO, SILVER!!!
HA-HA-HA!
NEH-NEIGH!
GYURURU (GRRUMM)
BURORORO (VROOO)
ZURI!!! (ZWWOOM)
BARI
BARI (SKREE)

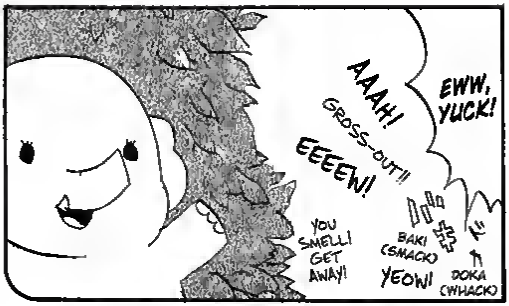
...RAKU-ICHI!
...NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN...
WH-WH-WH-WH-WHAT? WHAT!?
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
AAAAH!
WHO ARE YOU?
NO WAY! DID YOU FORGET ABOUT ME?
GUI-TTO (TUG)
GASHI (SSHH)
JUST WATCH THE ROAD! PLEASE!!
AAAH! NEVER MIND!
UH-OH. THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!
AAH!
AHH!
HEH HEH.
I...I ONLY KNOW ONE PERSON THIS INSANE...
OH MY GOD
KIKII (SCREECH)
BAKA (CRUNCH)
DOGON (CRASH)
BA (CHIP)
SURE THING!!
GYUGII (GYRRR)
GA (OOOH)
AAH!
KI... (SKRR)
SFX: DOKAAN (KABOOM)

WHAT?
IS THAT YOU, BIWAKO !?
BIWAKO-SAMA TO YOU, PUD
NI (GRIN)
AND TO THINK I DITCHED WORK TO COME AND PICK YOU UP! GEEZ!
HAR-RUMPH!
BURORORORO (VRUHHHH)
BUSHUUU (BSHHHT)
A MOVING THREE-YEAR REUNION BETWEEN COUSINS, AND THIS IS ALL I GET?
...YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE...
.....
WELCOME BACK, RAKUICHI.
HA HA.
BURORO (VRRRM)

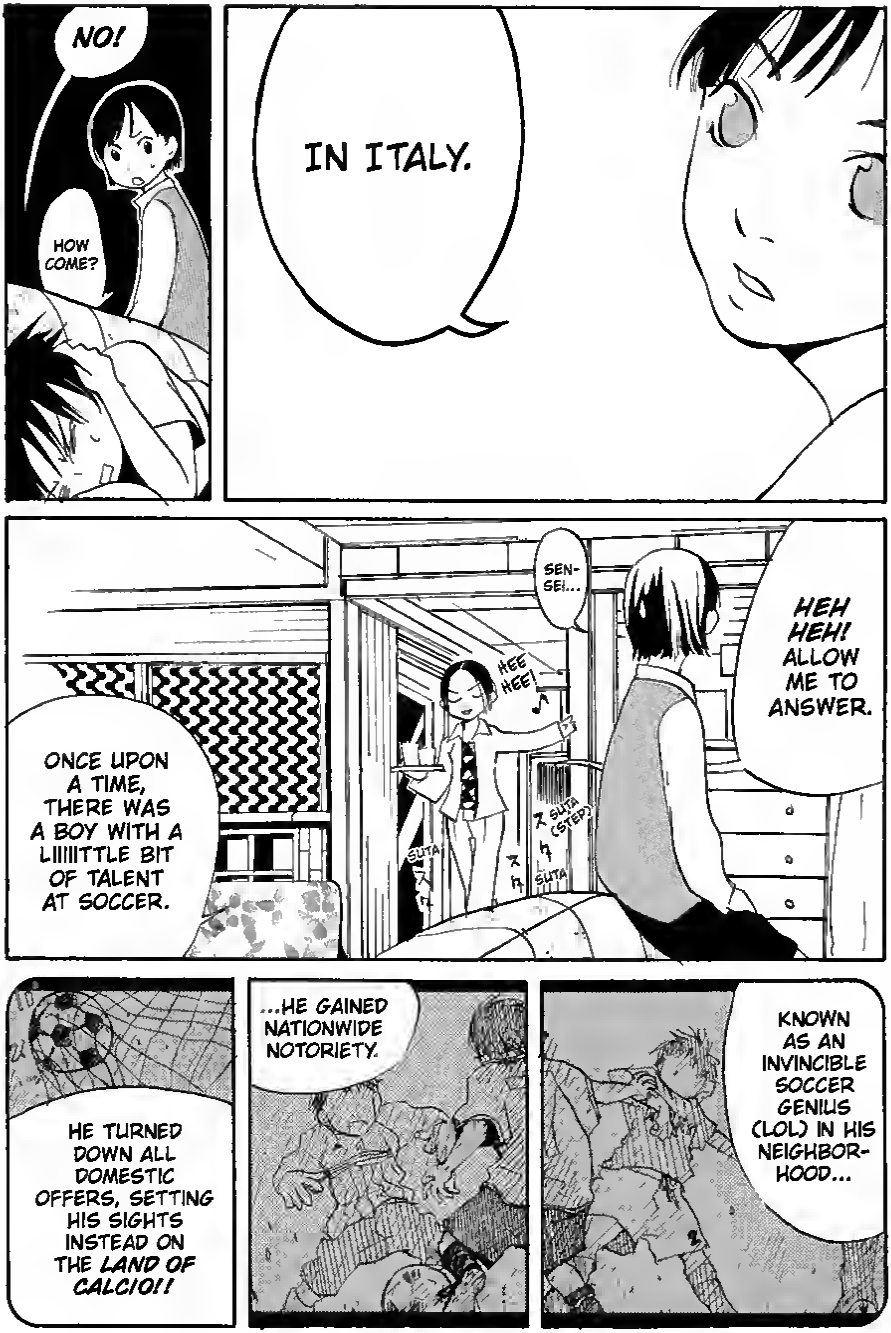

SFX: PARAHARA (THWLIP) PARAHARA
SUCHA (CHK)
BATAN (THUMP)
RUSH
RAAAAHH!
BUWON (VRUM)
BUWON
BUROROO
HMPH
GYURURURU! (GRRRR)
GOBYUUU (LOOOM)
FUA (YAWN)
WHATCHA DOIN', RAKUICHI?
SO TIRED!
BEIN' SICK.
AND IT'S YOUR FAULT!
UGH.
LOSER!
(SCRAPE)
BLECH. FEEL SO SICK.
SENSEI!
BLURPH!

OH, INAECCHI! WELCOME HOME.
AND WHY ARE YOU ALREADY BACK HOME?
WHY DID YOU JUST IGNORE OUR CLASSES TODAY?
THE VICE-PRINCIPAL WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.
HEH HEH!
HA HA.
I WAS JUST PICKING UP THIS DORK!
BAN (WHAP)
BAN
AAAH! DON'T SHAKE MY HEAD!
WHY DO YOU SOUND SO PROUD OF THAT?
HUH?
WAIT, WHO'S THIS?
UH... RAKUICHI?
I... INAE... URP!

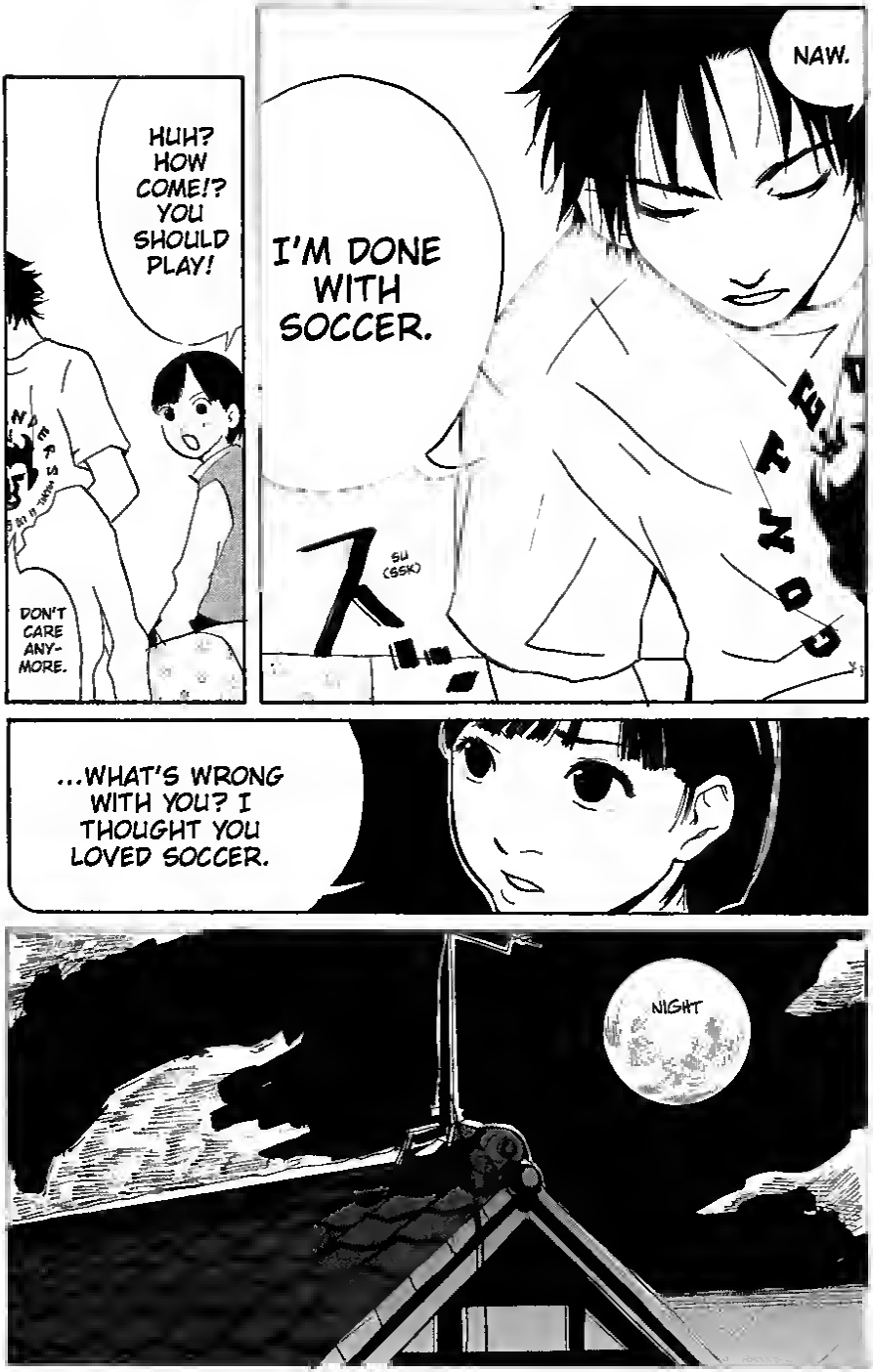
SFX: FURA (SWAY) FURA

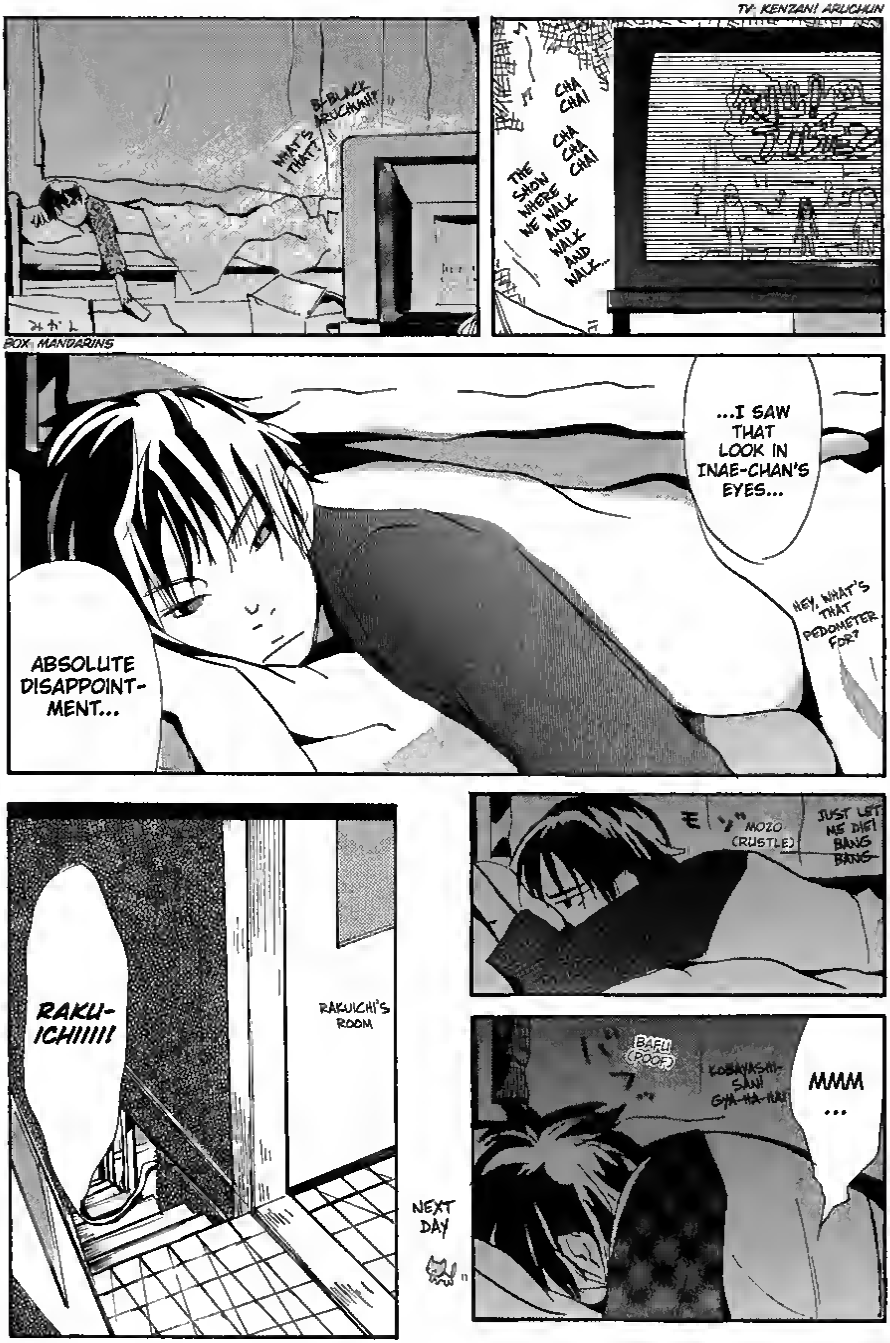


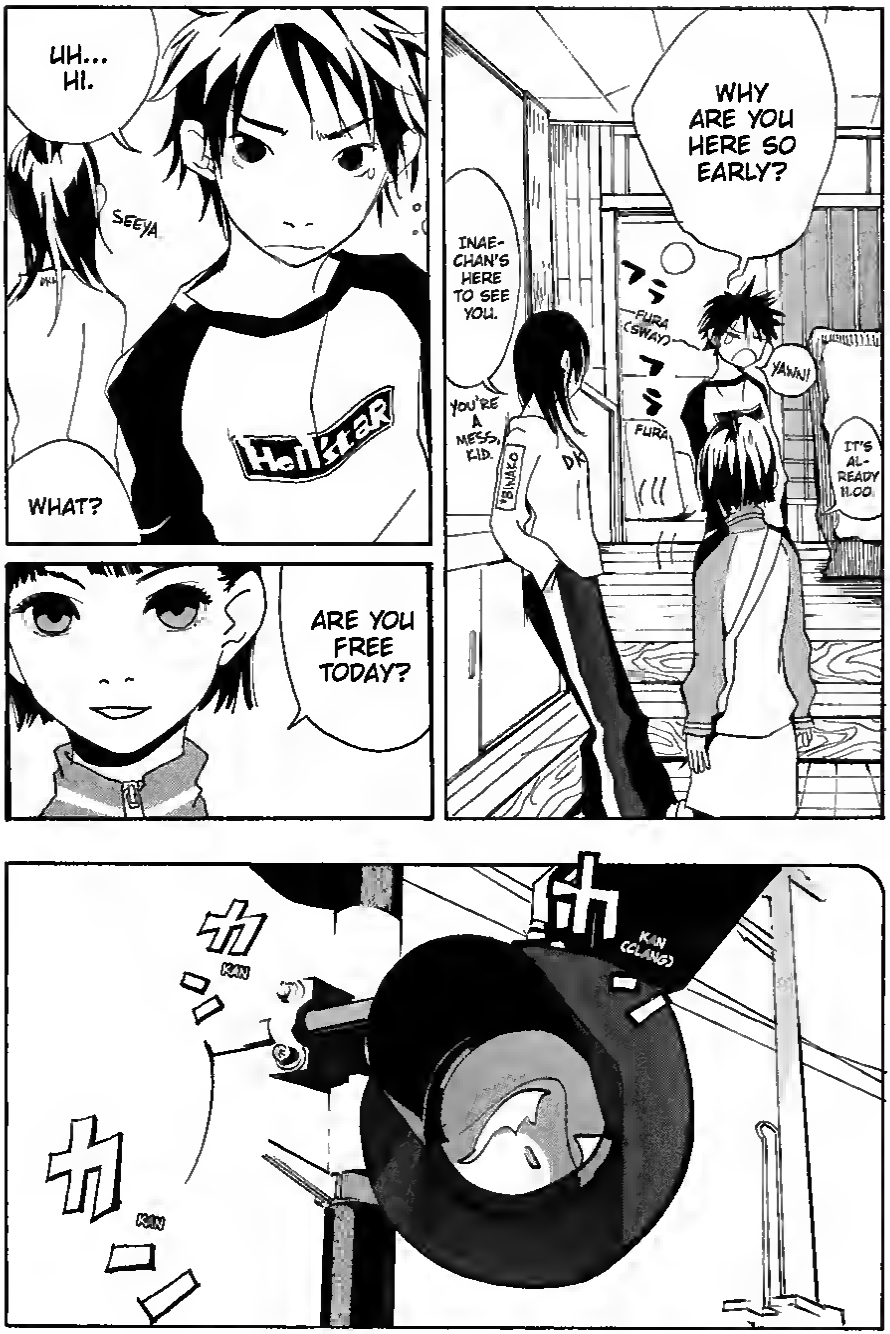
SFX. DOBAA (SLOOSH)

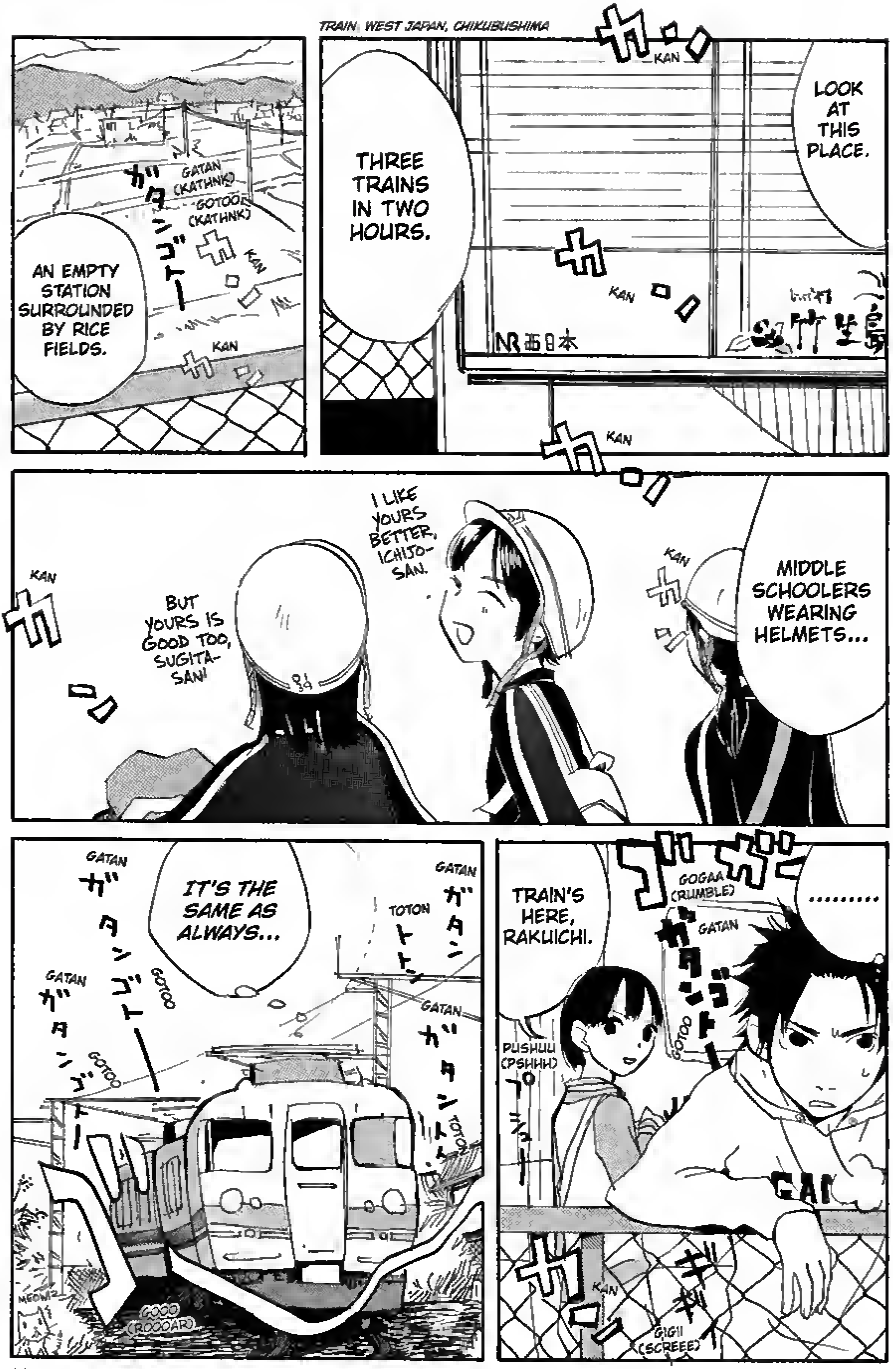

NO!
HOW COME?
IN ITALY.
SEN-SEI...
HEE HEE!
SUTA (STEP)
SUTA
SUTA
HEH HEH! ALLOW ME TO ANSWER.
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A BOY WITH A LIIIIITTLE BIT OF TALENT AT SOCCER.
HE TURNED DOWN ALL DOMESTIC OFFERS, SETTING HIS SIGHTS INSTEAD ON THE LAND OF CALCIO!!
...HE GAINED NATIONWIDE NOTORIETY.
KNOWN AS AN INVINCIBLE SOCCER GENIUS (LOL) IN HIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD...

THAT WAS FAST!
NOT THE BEST WAY TO TELL THE STORY, I GUESS!
NO, THEY DIDN'T
BOO HOO
THREE YEARS IN THREE PANELS
BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT, AND NOW HE'S BACK. AND THEY ALL LIVED ...
... HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
HA HA HA!
AND HE CAN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF SEEING ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO STILL REMEMBER HIM!
AND NOW, RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA (16) HAS STOOPED TO THE LEVEL OF A NORMAL STUDENT AT CHIKUBUSHIMA PREFECTURAL HIGH, STARTING NEXT WEEK!
MUKURI (RISE)
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
YOU'RE COMING TO OUR SCHOOL, RAKUICHI?
GREAT! YOU CAN PLAY ON OUR SOCCER TEAM.
I'M THE TEAM MANAGER


HUH? HOW COME!? YOU SHOULD PLAY!
DON'T CARE ANY-MORE.
I'M DONE WITH SOCCER.
NAW.
SU (SSK)
...WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? I THOUGHT YOU LOVED SOCCER.
NIGHT

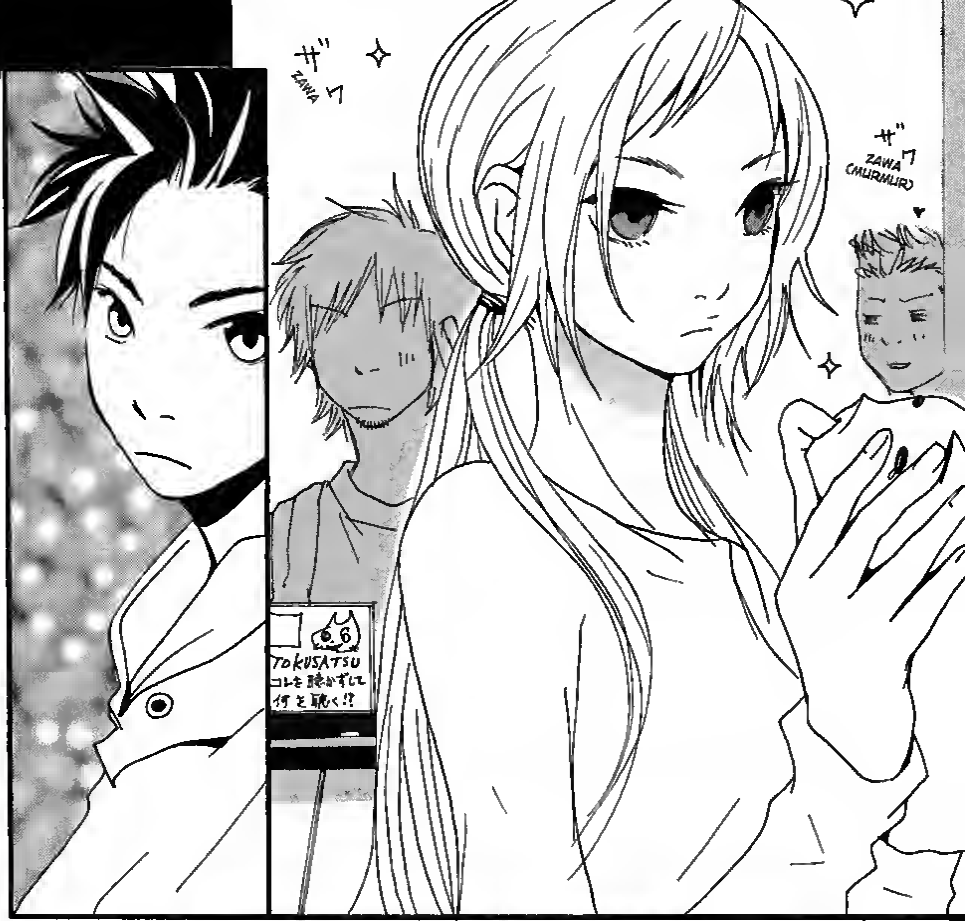

WHAT'S THAT?
B-BLACK ARUCHAN!?
CHA CHA!
CHA CHA CHA!
THE SHOW WHERE WE WALK AND WALK AND WALK...
BOX: MANDARINS
...I SAW THAT LOOK IN INAE-CHAN'S EYES...
HEY, WHAT'S THAT PEDOMETER FOR?
ABSOLUTE DISAPPOINT-MENT...
MOZO (RUSTLE)
JUST LET ME DIE! BANG BANG
RAKU-ICHI!!!!!
RAKUICHI'S ROOM
NEXT DAY
BAFU (POOF)
KOBAYASHI-SAN! GHA-HA-HA!
MMM...


UH... HI.
SEE YA
HOLLISTER
WHAT?
ARE YOU FREE TODAY?
WHY ARE YOU HERE SO EARLY?
INAE-CHAN'S HERE TO SEE YOU.
YOU'RE A MESS, KID.
FURA (SWAY)
FURA
YAWN!
IT'S AL-READY 11:00.
KAN
KAN
KAN (CLANG)


TRAIN, WEST JAPAN, CHIKUBUSHIMA
AN EMPTY STATION SURROUNDED BY RICE FIELDS.
GATAN (KATHINK)
GOTOOO (KATHINK)
KAN
THREE TRAINS IN TWO HOURS.
LOOK AT THIS PLACE.
JR西日本
I LIKE YOURS BETTER, ICHIJO-SAN.
BUT YOURS IS GOOD TOO, SUGITA-SAN!
MIDDLE SCHOOLERS WEARING HELMETS...
IT'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS...
GATAN
GOTOO
TOTON
TRAIN'S HERE, RAKUICHI.
GOGAA (RUMBLE)
PUSHUU (PSHHH)
GAI
GIGII (SCREEE)
MEOW?
POOO (TOOOAR)

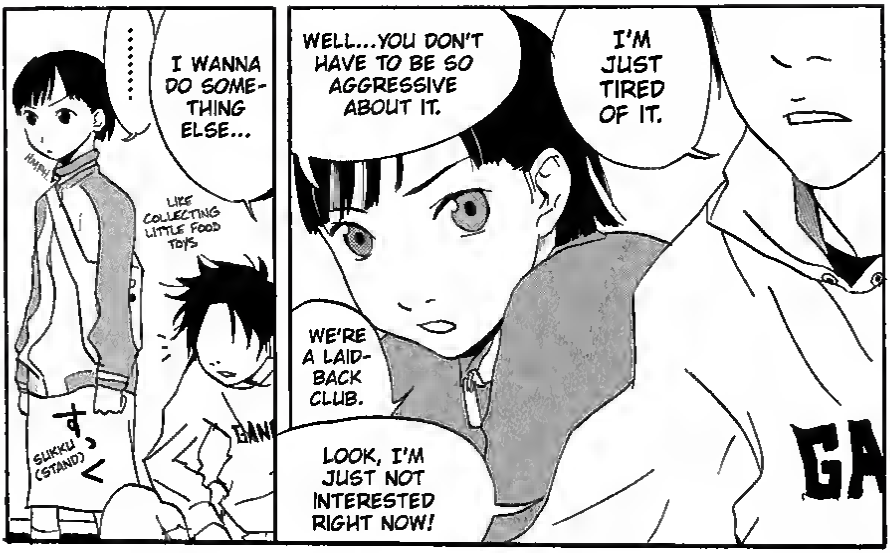
HUH. SO THEY BUILT THIS BIG STORE HERE, HUH?
YEP. THEY BUILT A LOTTA STUFF WHILE YOU WERE GONE.
"Dekai mise"
DON (BOOM)
SHOPPING
SENTA
restoran
SFX: GAYA (MURMUR) GAYA
ARE YOU ANGRY I ASKED YOU OUT HERE?
THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE TO GO, REALLY.
CRUEL REALITY.
HA HA HA
JUST A BIGGER BUILDING TO HOLD THE SAME OLD STUFF... KINDA SAD.
'COURSE, THE STUFF THEY SELL IS STILL THE USUAL SMALL-TIME JUNK.
.....
TSUN (POKE)
PAPA
YEAH! I'M GREAT!!
GU (THUMBS UP)
GANBA!
HEH HEH
YOUR FACE IS BIG
YOU SEEMED KINDA DOWN. I THOUGHT MAYBE GOIN' SHOPPING WOULD GET YOU IN A BETTER MOOD...
DOKI (BADUMP)

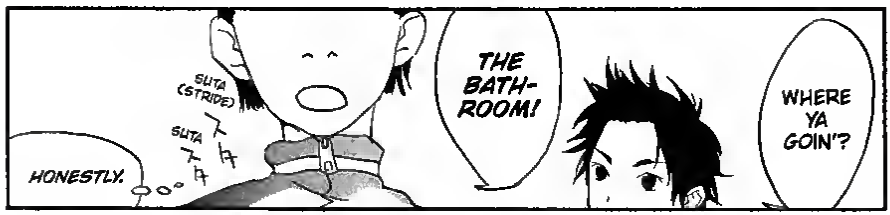
CDs: TANKOBO KIBAJI WITH NOBUO, TAKUHATSU - BOZU

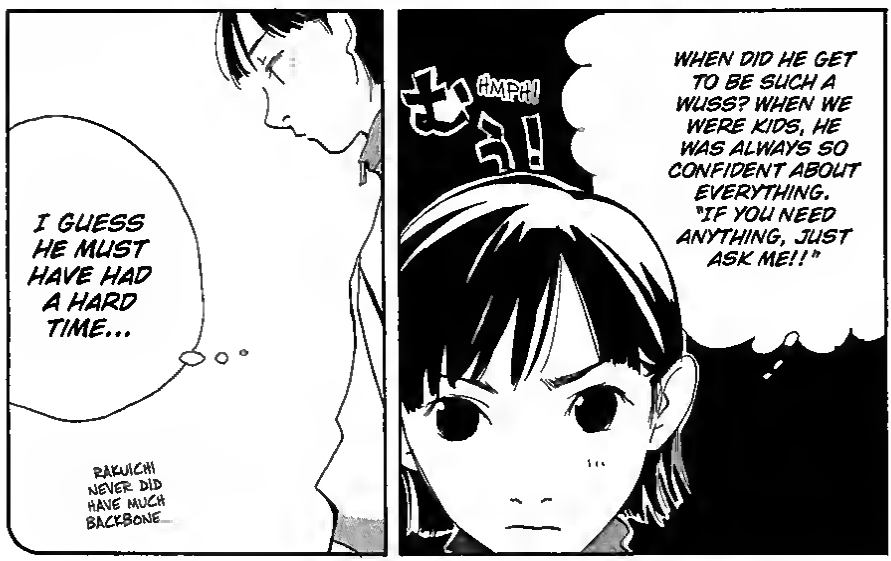


SIGN: WHAT WOULD YOU LISTEN TO IF NOT THIS!?

SFX: PIRORIRORII (BEEDLY-BEEP)
SFX: GUWON (GWOM) GAGA (GRRK) YONYU (YWUM)
PIKOOON (BADING)
ARE YOU REALLY GONNA QUIT, RAKUICHI?
BAAN (BANG)
DON
SO NOISY
DON
GA (DA)
GA
GA
GAA
DON
DON (BOOM)
ZUBA (SLASH)
KACHA
KACHA
KACHA (CLACK)
CHA
SIGN: CRUSH THEM! FEDERATION VS. ZEON DX
I HATE THAT KIND OF STUFF.
THERE WE GO
GANG
WHAT STUFF?
DON
DON
GA
BAAN
GA
DON
BAHYUUN (KABOOM)
YEAH! WE FINALLY HAD OUR SUPER-ROOKIE COMING TO JOIN THE TEAM, FRESH FROM ITALY! WHAT A WASTE.
YOU WOULD HAVE HELPED OUR TEAM A LOT.
...WHATEVER.
SOCCER?
GOSO (RUSTLE)
GASA (RUSTLE)
SIGNS: SMOKING ROOM, ARCADE
SIGNS: TRASH CANS & BOTTLES
PEOPLE PUTTING THEIR EXPECTATIONS ON YOU, AND FAILING TO COME THROUGH. ALL THAT CRAP!


.....
I WANNA DO SOME-THING ELSE...
HMPH
LIKE COLLECTING LITTLE FOOD TOYS
SUKKU (STAND)
WELL...YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO AGGRESSIVE ABOUT IT.
I'M JUST TIRED OF IT.
WE'RE A LAID-BACK CLUB.
LOOK, I'M JUST NOT INTERESTED RIGHT NOW!
GA


SUTA (STRIDE)
SUTA
HONESTLY.
THE BATH-ROOM!
WHERE YA GOIN'?


I GUESS HE MUST HAVE HAD A HARD TIME...
RAKUCHI NEVER DID HAVE MUCH BACKBONE
HMPH!
WHEN DID HE GET TO BE SUCH A WUSS? WHEN WE WERE KIDS, HE WAS ALWAYS SO CONFIDENT ABOUT EVERYTHING. "IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST ASK ME!!"

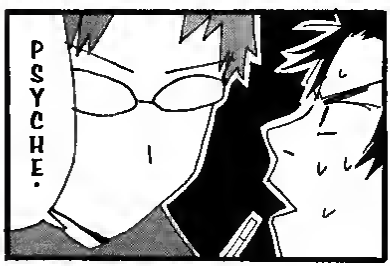
DID I MAKE HER ANGRY...?
FUU (SIGH)
SIGH ...
GUESS I'LL PLAY A GAME.
GANGST
GOGO (RUMMAGE)
GOGO
DAMMIT.
DON'T HAVE A LIGHTER.
KE (TCH)
SIGN EMERGENCY EXIT
GUSUN (SNIFF)
SHIKU (SO)
SHIKU
NEED A LIGHT?
SU (SHH)

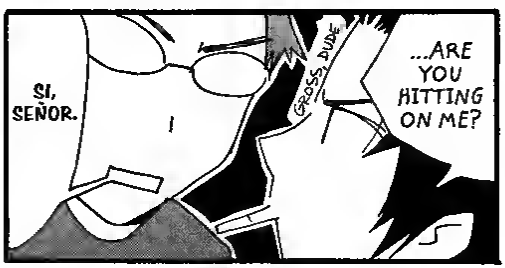
OH, THANKS VERY MUCH.
YOU'RE QUITE WELCOME.
FWOOM

JII (STARE)
HAA (SIGH)

HERE YA GO.

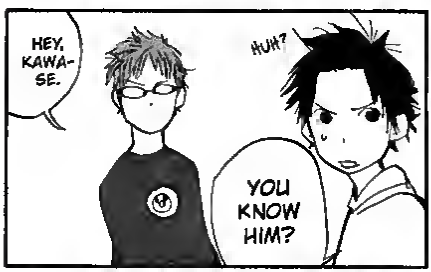
IS IT JUST ME, OR HAVE WE MET BEFORE?
ZUI (ZOOM)
...WHAT?


PSYCHE.

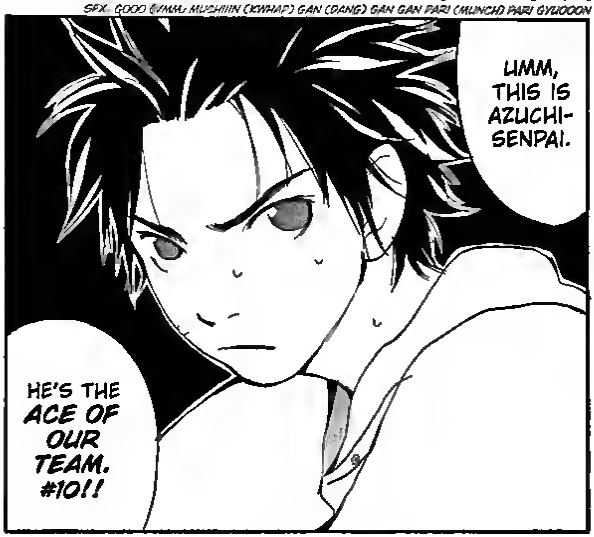

SI, SEÑOR.
GROSS, DUDE.
...ARE YOU HITTING ON ME?

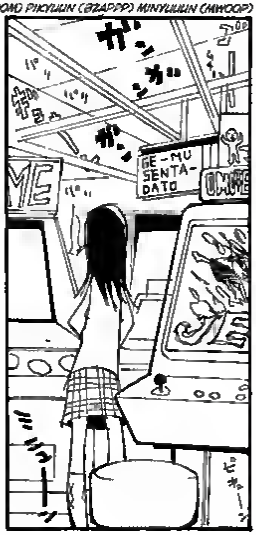
SOCCER.
NOW HE'S GIVING HIS LIFE STORY.
I GOT SELECTED TO PLAY IN A BIG TOURNAMENT WHEN I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL.
I PLAY SOCCER, RIGHT?
WHOA, WHAT A DICK.
WHAT'S HIS DEAL?
THERE WAS THIS ONE KID THERE, A YEAR YOUNGER THAN ME. HE WAS TEARIN' UP THE ENTIRE FIELD.
THE GUY WAS SO GOOD, HE LEFT TO PLAY IN ITALY AFTER HE WAS DONE WITH SCHOOL...
I DUNNO, I THINK YOU MUST HAVE THE WRONG PERSON.
I KNOW HIM, BUT I DON'T KNOW HIM..
WHY DO I KEEP RUNNING INTO ALL THESE PEOPLE?
THAT'S ME, ALL RIGHT.
WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
THAT'S ALL.
...AND YOU REMIND ME OF HIM.

*BECAUSE YOU'RE OUT IN THE STICKS.



SFX: GOOO (HMM) MUSHIIIN (KYHAP) GAN (DANG) GAN GAN PARI (MUNCH) PARI GYUOOON (KABOOM) PIKYUUIN (ZZAPPP) WINYUUUIN (WHOOP)



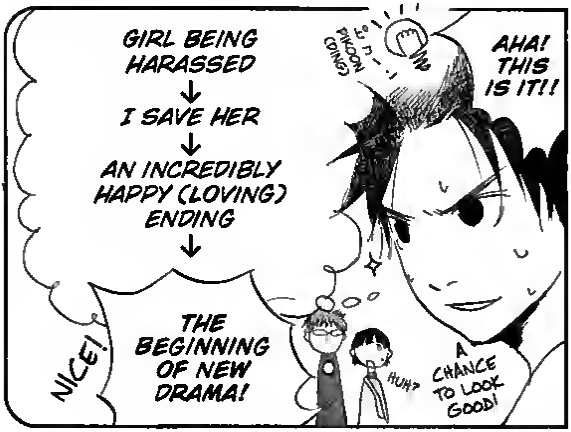


NOT REALLY ...
MORE TO THE POINT...
NGST
...YOU MUST HAVE MET HIM WHEN WE WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. I KNOW THAT I DID. DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
IN FACT, RAKUICHI ...
AND THE FACT THAT INAE-CHAN SEEMS MORE EXCITED ABOUT IT THAN HIM IS EVEN WORSE!
DAMN! THEM BOTH!
AHH!
WHAT IS IT?
SASAI SASAI
HM?
...I REALLY DON'T LIKE TO SEE THEM GETTING ALONG LIKE THIS.
HE'S MY ENEMY!
THIS GUY!
HA (GASP)
CHIRA (GLANCE)
AHH, OF COURSE.
AWW, YOU'RE SUCH A CUTIE
NYA (SMIRK)
DON'T YOU TOUCH HER!
STOP IT!
BASHI (SMACK)
BASHI
TO HELL WITH YOU GUYS! THE SOCCER TEAM'S BEST PLAYER AND THE CUTE MANAGER, TOGETHER? WHAT KIND OF FANTASY WORLD DO YOU LIVE IN? HUMBUG!
SFX: NADE (RUB) NADE
NOT AT ALL! WE'RE JUST OLD FRIENDS, NOTHING MORE!!
SO, YOU TWO GOIN' OUT OR WHAT?
ON A DATE?
EWW, NO!
KAA (BLUSH)

NO.
HEYYYLL No.
SO SIMPLE-MINDED.
NOT THIS AGAIN!!
HMPH!
WELL, IF YOU'RE GONNA BE ATTENDING OUR SCHOOL, RAKUICHI-KUN, WE SHOULD PLAY SOCCER TOGETHER.
I'M QUITTING! ME AND SOCCER ARE DONE! OVER!! KAPUT!
OH, JUST SHUT UP ABOUT IT ALREADY!
YOU LOVE SOCCER, AND YOU KNOW IT!
...VIDEO GAMES. TOYS
HUH!?
UHH...
ZUI (ZIP)
DO YOU EVEN HAVE ANY OTHER INTER-ESTS ...?
...WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, THEN?
BIKU (FLINCH)
RRGH.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? YOU'RE GONNA GET IT, BITCH!
GEH.
HUH? WHAT THE HELL'S GOIN' ON!?
GOTON (THUMP)
AAAH!
PARIN (SMASH)
HE'S TRYING TO CHANGE THE TOPIC.
WISH THEY'D PIPE DOWN.
BA (TURN)

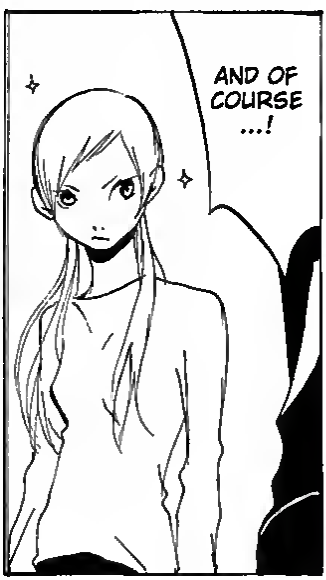
AUGH!!
DON'T HAVE TO BE SUCH A JERK ABOUT IT.
.....
GATAN (THUMP)
IS THAT A FIGHT?


GIRL BEING HARASSED
↓
I SAVE HER
↓
AN INCREDIBLY HAPPY (LOVING) ENDING
↓
AHA! THIS IS IT!!
PIKOON (DING)
NICE!
THE BEGINNING OF NEW DRAMA!
HUH?
A CHANCE TO LOOK GOOD!

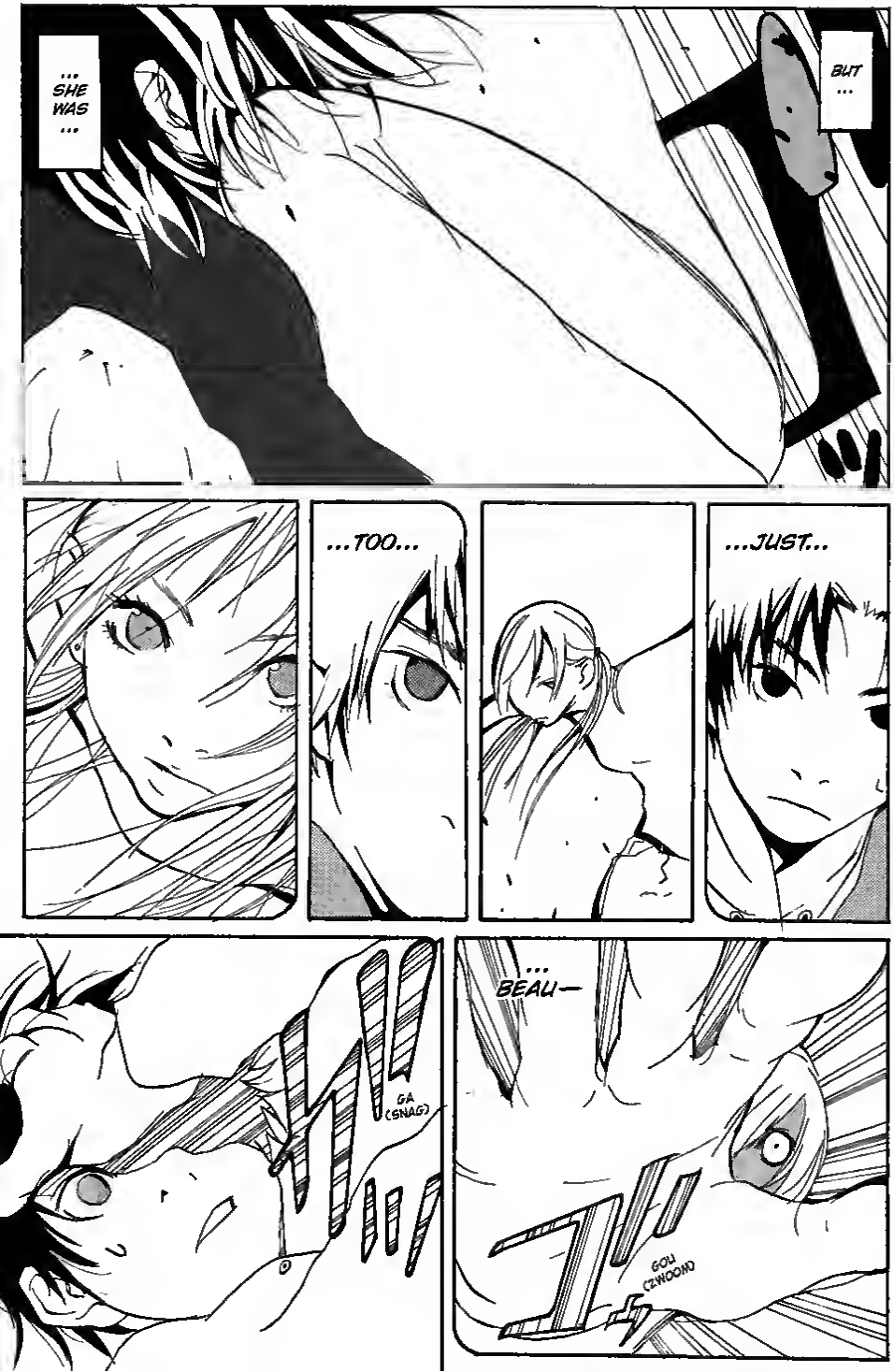
THEY'RE HARASSING SOME GIRL.
GYAA!
GYAA!
OH MY GOD
NO WAR

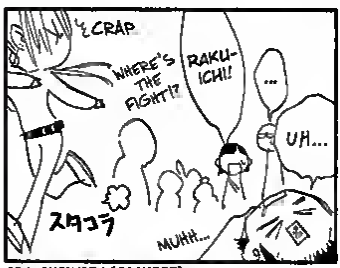
HEY, YOU LOSERS! GET YOUR HANDS OFF—
BA (LEAP)
THINKING ON IT LATER...

THE MORE BEAUTIFUL THE HEROINE, THE BETTER!
UHH, I DON'T THINK YOU WANNA GET INVOLVED WITH THAT
!
IT'S THAT HOTTIE I SAW EARLIER!
GANGST

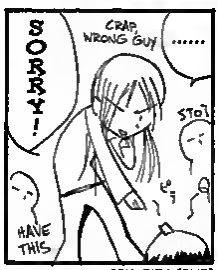

AND OF COURSE ...!

ZUGA (ZWANN)
...MAY NOT HAVE BEEN FUNC-TIONING ...
SEE?
...MY ASSESS-MENT FACULTIES ...
GA (WHACK)
B-BEAST PUNCH?
GO (WHOK)
...AT THE TIME.
...AT FULL CAPACITY..

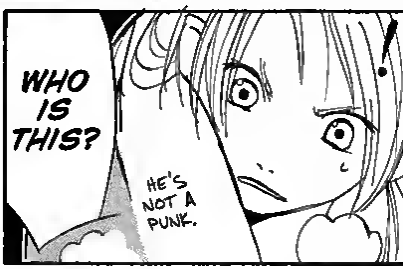

...SHE WAS...
BUT...
...TOO...
...JUST...
GA (SNAG)
...BEAU—
GOU (CRUSH)

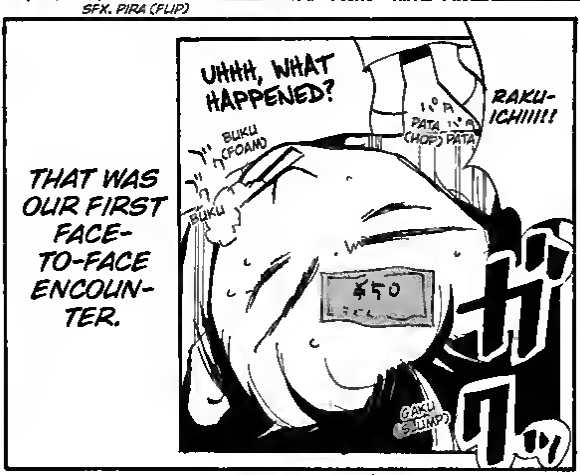


SFX: SUTAKORA (SCAMPER)



SFX: PIRA (FLIP)





COUPON: ¥50 - UDON

...WHAT AM I DOING?
AND WHY DID SHE GIVE ME A 50-YEN UDON COUPON?
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING WITH YOURSELF?
WHAT A DOPE!
SHUT UP!
BIWAKO
CRAP! NINE O'CLOCK!
AND THEN ...
DAMN IT ALL!
HAA-? HAA-?
DA (DASH)
TO RAKUCHI: JUST ONCE, I WANT TO SEE YOU RUSHING INTO SCHOOL LATE WITH A PIECE OF TOAST IN YOUR MOUTH
BY BIWAKO
TOAST
SHE EVEN TURNED OFF MY ALARM CLOCK!
THE WITCH ...
THEN DON'T RUSH.
LATE ON THE VERY FIRST DAY!
ZEE
ZEE (WHEEZE)
HAA
HAA! (PANT)
WA-WHATEVER!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT BEING LATE, ANYWAY...

HMM?
TA (TMD)
...MY NEW LIFE...
MUH?
WHAT ARE YOU STARIN' AT, DWEEB?
GEH.
...WAS SET TO BEGIN.
SHE'S IN HIGH SCHOOL?
MY HIGH SCHOOL?

THE STORY THUS FAR.

LONG, LONG AGO!

A BOY WAS VERY GOOD AT SOCCER!!

SO GOOD THAT HE THOUGHT HE COULD COMPETE IN THE LAND OF CALCIO.

HOWEVER! LIFE TAUGHT HIM A HARSH LESSON...

THREE YEARS LATER, HE RETURNED TO JAPAN, DEFEATED. HOWEVER!

HIS CUTE LITTLE FRIEND FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WAS NOW A BUDDING (?) HIGH SCHOOLER!!

WELCOME HOME!

HOWEVER! SHE WAS NOW HEAD OVER HEELS FOR AN UPPER-CLASSMAN ON THE SOCCER TEAM.

KYAA (SQUEAL)

THE MANAGER ADMIRING HER TEAM'S STAR PLAYER

EVEN WORSE WAS THE INEXPLICABLE VIOLENCE OF A MYSTERIOUS GIRL.

!?

BA

HUH?

AND RE-UNION.

どびっくり

DOBIKKURI (SHOCK)

WE'RE AT THE SAME SCHOOL?

WHA

ADD IN HIS COUSIN BIWAKO'S MEAN-INGLESS PRANKS...

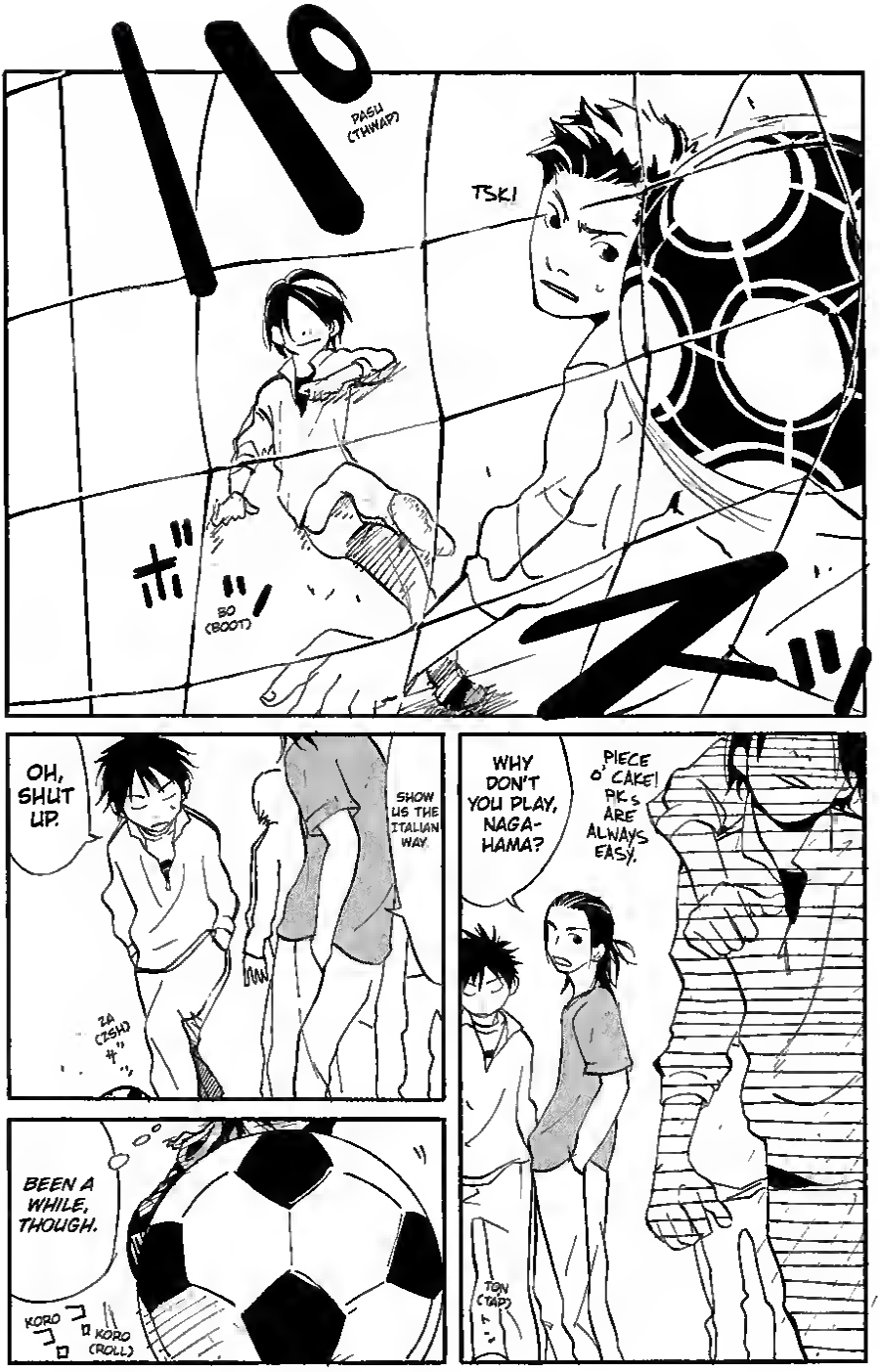
M-MY SHOE-LACES!

TIED TOGETHER! EEK!

...AND WHAT WILL TOMORROW BRING FOR THIS YOUNG MAN!!?

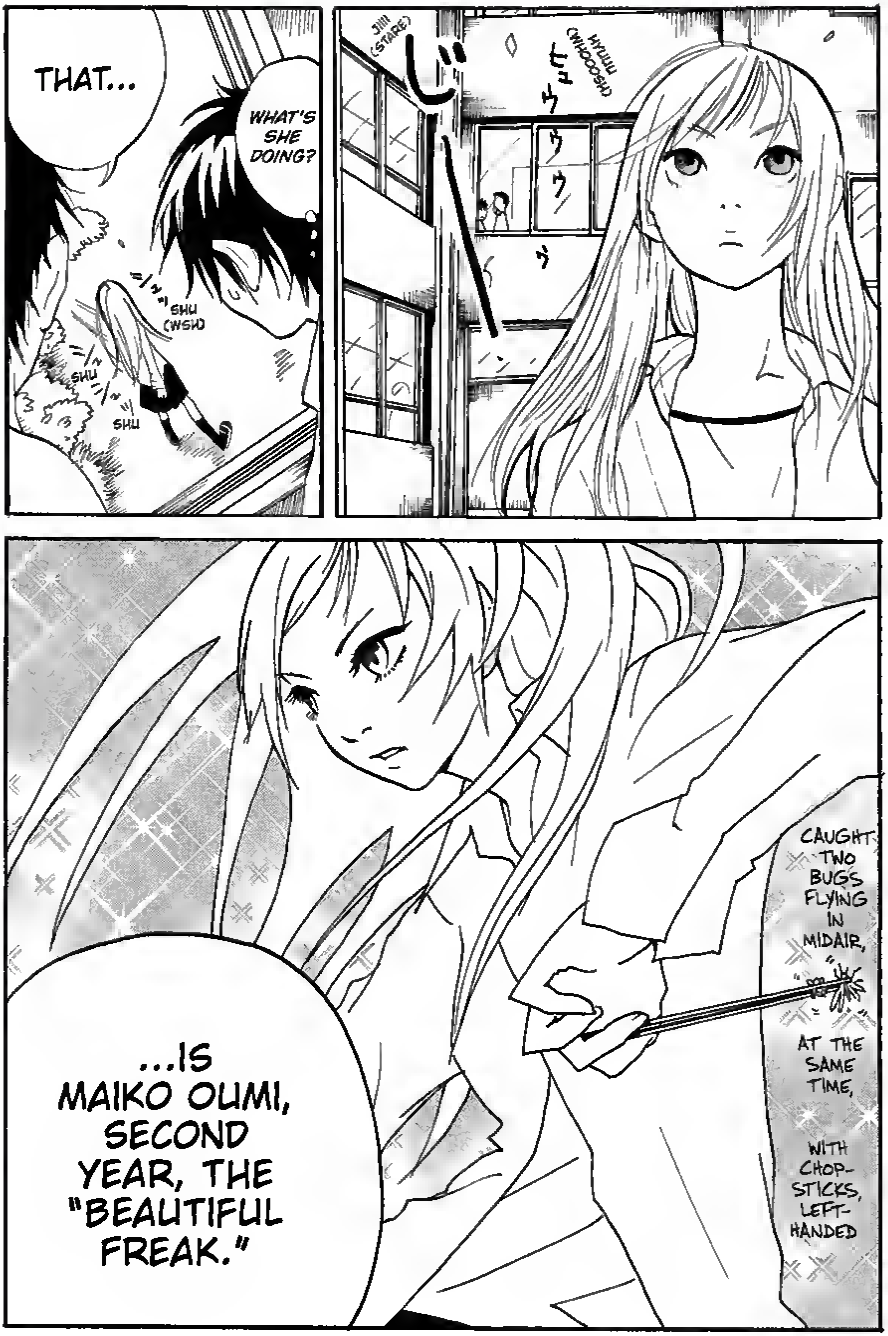
SFX. PURAN (DANGLE)

#02
WHAT YOU WANT —
WHAT YOU WANNA DO?


PASU (THWAP)
TSK!
BO (BOOT)
OH, SHUT UP.
SHOW US THE ITALIAN WAY.
ZA (TSH)
WHY DON'T YOU PLAY, NAGA-HAMA?
PIECE O' CAKE! PK's ARE ALWAYS EASY.
TON (TAP)
BEEN A WHILE, THOUGH.
KORO (ROLL)

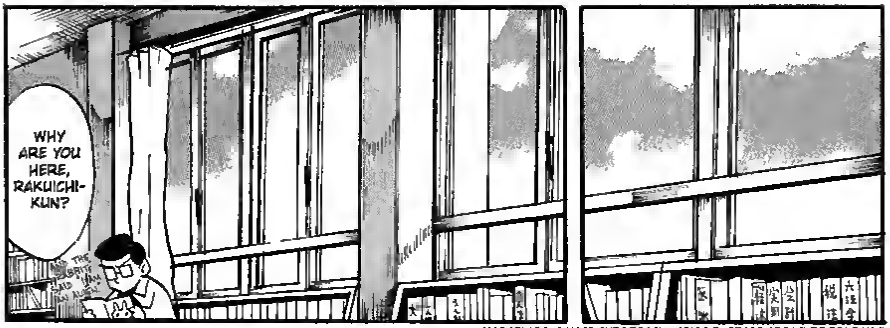
HEE-HEE!
...SINCE I FELT THIS SENSATION.
TON (TAP)
FRANCE?
HE WENT THERE TO PLAY SOCCER.
KACHA (CLINK)
KACHA (CLACK)
LOOK, SEE THAT GUY THERE? HE JUST CAME BACK FROM FRANCE.
OR WAS IT AFRICA?
HE USED TO LIVE HERE ORIGINALLY.
OHH. BUT WOULDN'T THAT MEAN...
INTERESTING. HE'S KIND OF CUTE, DON'T YOU THINK?
REALLY? SEEMS PLAIN TO ME.
SO WHY IS HE HERE, ANYWAY?

SIGN: BATHROOM
御手洗
I TELL YA, IT'S HARD TO BE POPULAR.
...HE'S BACK BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE WHAT IT TOOK?
GUSA (STAB)
HUSH! HE'LL HEAR YOU!
DON'T SHOUT
I CAN HEAR YOU!
FUU (SIGH)
LIKE ME
..ON PURPOSE
AND SOME OF THEM SPREAD LIES !!
YOU GOT SO MANY PEOPLE WHO KNOW YOU FROM BEFORE.
WITH THE BLOND HAIR.
AHH.
HMM?
HEY, ISHIYAMA.
WHO'S THAT?


THAT...
WHAT'S SHE DOING?
SHU (MSM)
SHU
SHU
JIIII (STARE)
(MSOOHM) MMMM
...IS MAIKO OUMI, SECOND YEAR, THE "BEAUTIFUL FREAK."
CAUGHT TWO BUGS FLYING IN MIDAIR,
AT THE SAME TIME,
WITH CHOPSTICKS, LEFT-HANDED

I MEAN, SURE, SHE'S WAY HOT...
GOKURI (GULP)
...BUT I WOULDN'T MESS WITH HER, MAN. TONS OF GUYS HAVE TRIED TO ASK HER OUT OVER THE YEARS, AND THEY ALL GOT SENT TO THE HOSPITAL IN THE END...
WHOA! SHE NOTICED US!
HER SENSES, AS SHARP AS ANY ANIMAL'S ...
EEE!
KUN (SNIFF)
KUN
KYUPIN (FLASH)
BA (ZAP)
I KNEW IT WAS TRUE! GOD, YOU LUCKY BASTARD! YOU GET EVERYTHING!
HUH?
OUR MOMS ARE SISTERS
YEAH ...
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE LIVING WITH OKU-SENSEI?
OH, DUDE!
THE HOSPITAL
.....
IT'S THE BOY FROM ALASKA!
NO, HE WENT TO AUSTRALIA!
IT WAS LEMURIA, DUH!
ITALY
WAAAH!
KYAAA!
I'M 28!
DOGLISHA (KRUNCH)
PARIN (CRASH)
PARIN (CRASH)
BIDOON (SMASH)
DEATH
DON (BAM)
ACK!
NU (OOOH)
FORGET ABOUT IT, MAN. THAT EX-PUNK IS WELL OVER THIRTY BY NOW. THAT'S MORE THAN TWICE OUR AGE. SHE'S BAD NEWS ALL AROUND.
SIGN: FIRE ALARM

THE SKY— I MEAN, THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
OR MAYBE BACK HOME
WHERE'D RAKUICHI GO?
LAME
HUH?
AND RAKUICHI BECAME A STAR IN THE SKY.
I ALWAYS LIKED PLAYIN' HOOPS MORE.
TO THINK, YOU USED TO BE ALL ABOUT SOCCER TOO.
TRAITOR! DIE.
PLUS, NO SOCCER TEAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
NURSE'S OFFICE? I WAS HOPING TO FINALLY DRAG HIM ALONG TODAY.
TO THE SOCCER TEAM.
SLIPPERY GOON.
YOU'RE REALLY INTO THIS TEAM, HUH?
わ
TIME FOR PRACTICE!
WAI CHATTER
WAI
GAYA CYAMMER
GAYA
GET TO CLEAN-ING, ISHI-YAMA!
LUCKY RAKU-ICHI.
-WISH SOME-ONE CARED ABOUT ME
ARRRGH! SCREW EVERY-THING!
LAME



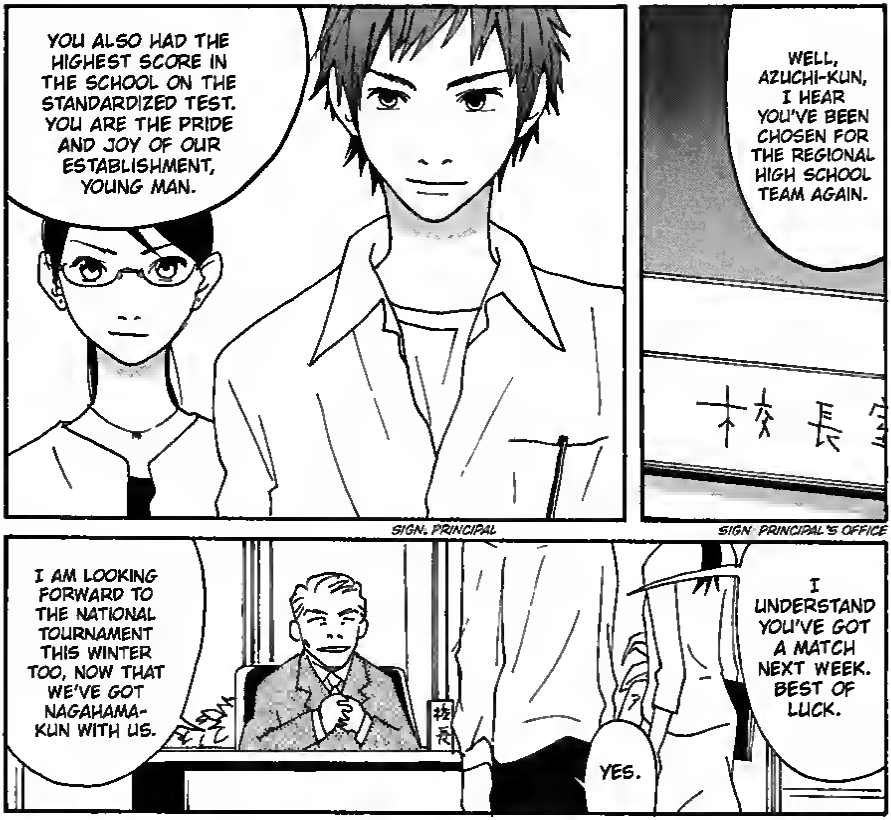
MAGAZINES: 'I HATE EUROBEAT', LADIES 2' SPACE CREATURE DOLRAKKI

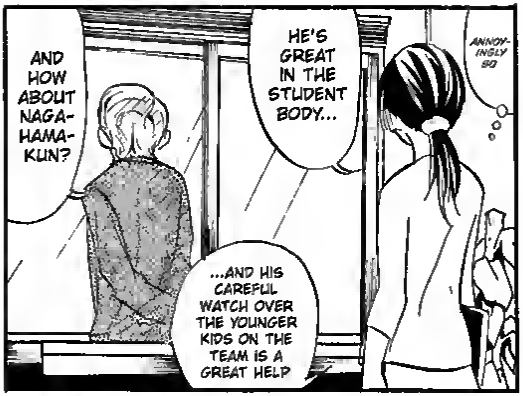
LOOK, HINO-SAN, I WANNA GET INVOLVED WITH ALL KINDS OF NEW STUFF THESE DAYS.
UHH ...
I'M INTO THE WHOLE GLOBALIZATION THING... WHATEVER THAT IS.
DENPA

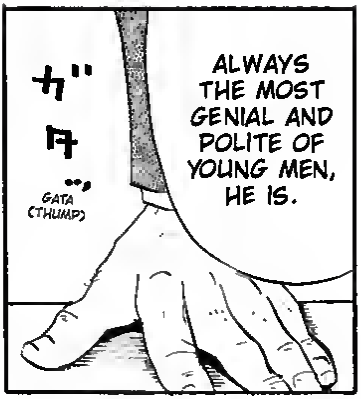
SIGN: QUIET IN HERE

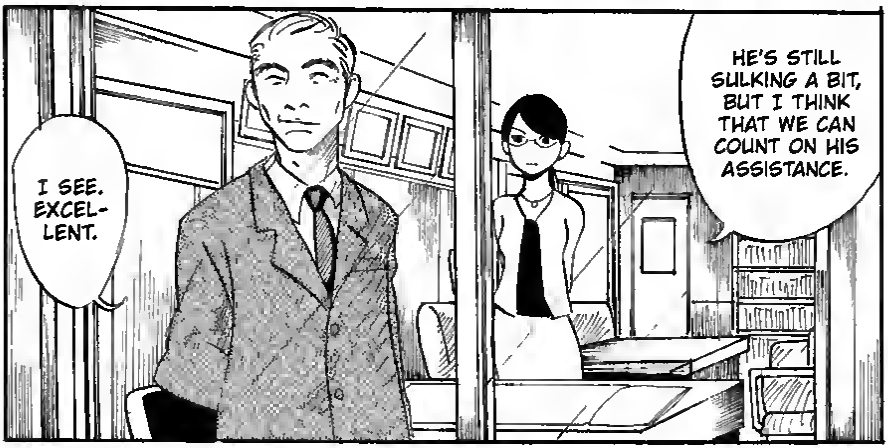
MAGAZINE: WEEKLY DENPA • THE IRADIO COMMANDS YOU!

BOX: SUGGESTIONS / MAGAZINES: ROBO, LITERARY BOSKA, THUMB-WRESTLING


YOU ALSO HAD THE HIGHEST SCORE IN THE SCHOOL ON THE STANDARDIZED TEST. YOU ARE THE PRIDE AND JOY OF OUR ESTABLISHMENT, YOUNG MAN.
WELL, AZUCHI-KUN, I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM AGAIN.
SIGN: PRINCIPAL
SIGN: PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE
I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT THIS WINTER TOO, NOW THAT WE'VE GOT NAGAHAMA-KUN WITH US.
YES.
I UNDERSTAND YOU'VE GOT A MATCH NEXT WEEK. BEST OF LUCK.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE PRACTICE TO ATTEND.
OF COURSE, OF COURSE. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
I'M HOPING FOR GOOD RESULTS, YOUNG FELLOW.
YES, SIR.


AND HOW ABOUT NAGA-HAMA-KUN?
HE'S GREAT IN THE STUDENT BODY...
...AND HIS CAREFUL WATCH OVER THE YOUNGER KIDS ON THE TEAM IS A GREAT HELP
ANNOY-INGLY SO



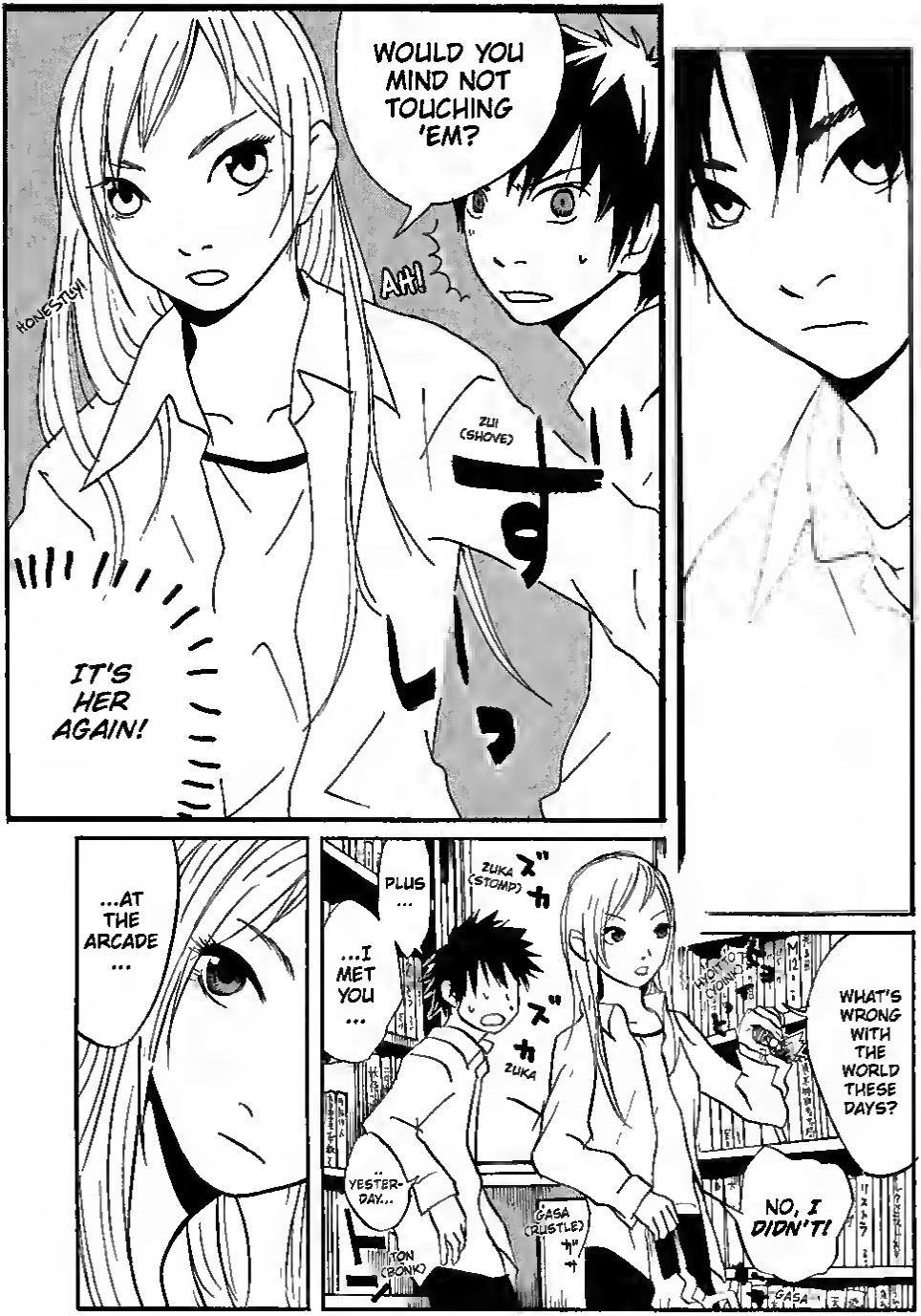


BOOKS: AT A LOSS - RYUJI X GOTSUBO, VICISSITUDES OF LIFE - RYUJI X GOTSUBO, ECOLOGY OF THE WILD TENGU - TENGU

BOOKS: ANGUISH OF THE WILD TENGU - TENGU, THE EARTH IS UNDER ATTACK - A EIJI ASUKA, SPACE TRAVELS OF THIRTEEN BOYS AND GIRLS. MAN MEAT - HANAMIKAGE MASHIRO

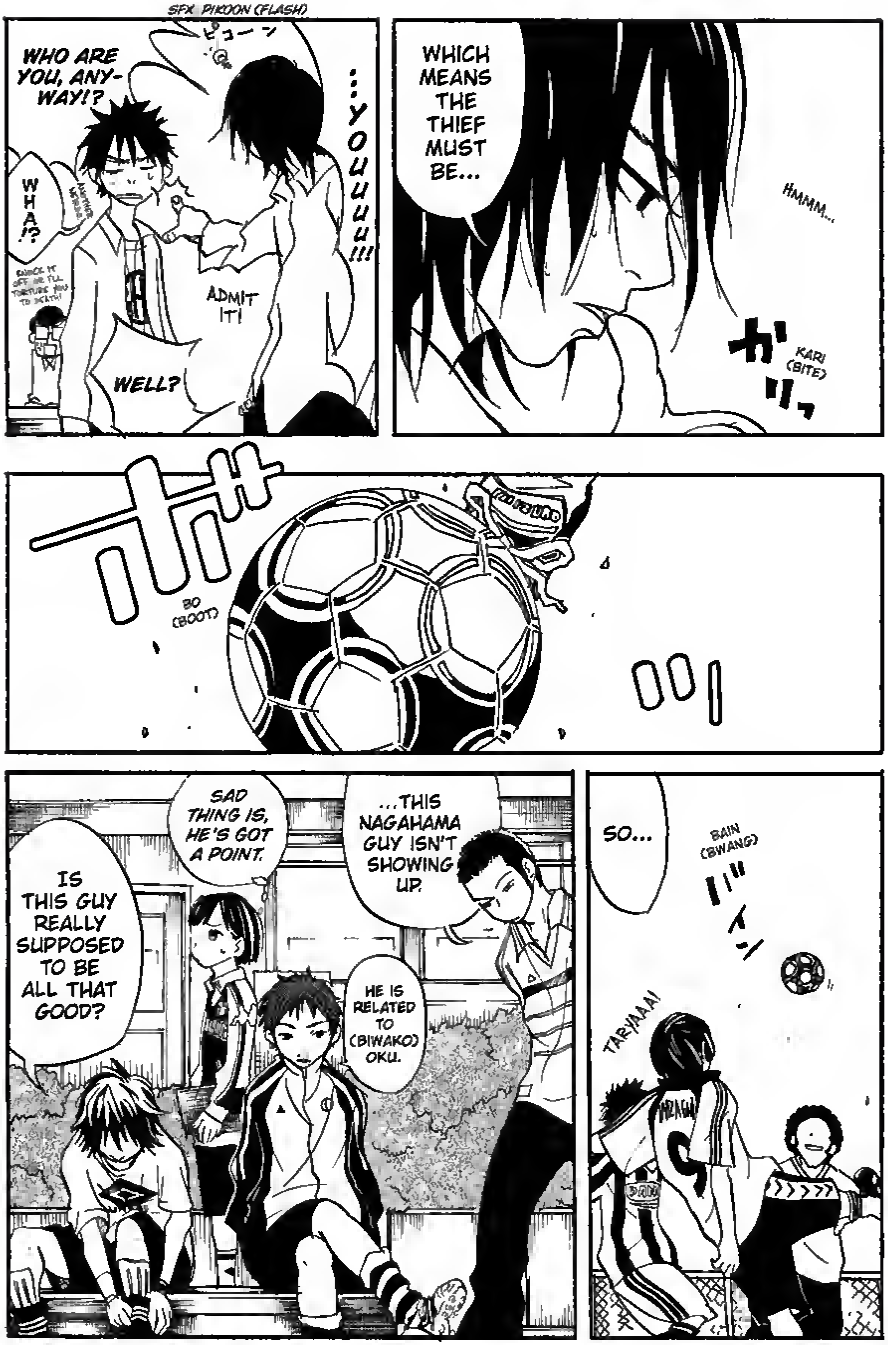
SIGN: PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

I DON'T EVEN WANT...
...TO THINK ABOUT STUFF.
FUU (SIGH)
KATSUN (TINK)
DON (BONK)
WHOOPS
HMM?
VENDING MACHINE TOYS?
WHAT THEY DOING HERE?
SOMEONE LEAVE 'EM?
SU (SSK)
NO, THIS ONE'S A 300-YEN SIZE...
THOSE ARE MINE.

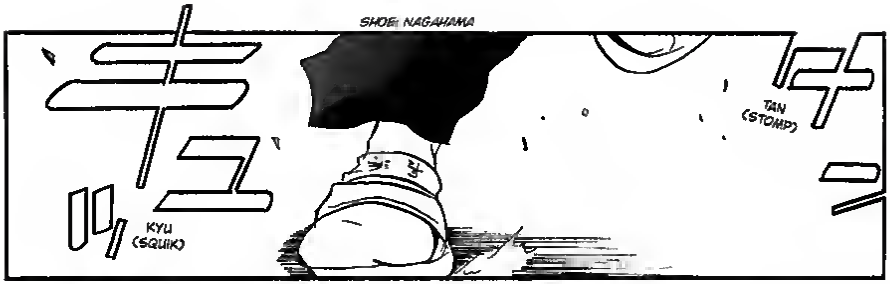

WOULD YOU MIND NOT TOUCHING 'EM?
AH!
HONESTLY!
ZUI (SHOVE)
IT'S HER AGAIN!
...AT THE ARCADE ...
PLUS ...
...I MET YOU ...
ZUKA (STOMP)
ZUKA
...YESTER-DAY...
TON (BONK)
GASA (RUSTLE)
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD THESE DAYS?
NO, I DIDN'T!
GASA

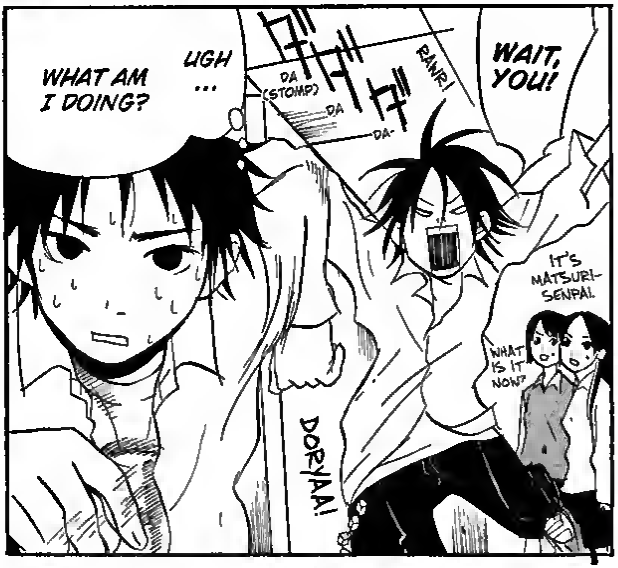
...WHEN YOU THREW ME—
I HAVE NO IDEA...
SO THAT'S WHO HE IS...
...WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
SHE'S LYING THROUGH HER TEETH!!
THAT WAS AN INSTANTANEOUS ANSWER!
YOU WENCH!
KERORI (SPIN)
WAIT! I'M NOT DONE WITH—
OKAY...
ASSUMING THE ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE THAT IT DID HAPPEN...
YEAH, IT DID.
A FULL SPIN!?
GA (GRAB)
GA (WHAK)
...WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU PLAN TO DO ABOUT IT!?
KURURI (SPIN)
GASA (RUSTLE)
HER FACE IS TINY
GUI (TUG)
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING VALUABLE, YOUNG MAN!

LOOKING FORWARD IS THE KEY TO RICHES!
HEH
RICH-ES?
THERE'S NO USE BEING STRANGLED BY THE PAST.
HUH?
WHAT A WEIRDO
SILENCE YOU LONER ANIMALS!
SMELLED NICE, THOUGH...
AND WHEN YOU DIE, YOU FALL FORWARD!
LIKE KIRBY!!
GASSA
GASSA
WHAT'S UP WITH HER?
SFX. DA (DASH)
MY FIGU-RINES !!!
AAAH!
BIKU (FLINCH)
THEY'RE GONE!!
HEY!
WHAT IS IT NOW, YOU TWIRLY TURDS!?


SFX: PIKOON (FLASH)
ピューン
WHO ARE YOU, ANY-WAY!?
...YOUUUU!!!
WHA!?
ADMIT IT!
WELL?
WHICH MEANS THE THIEF MUST BE...
HMMM...
KARI (BITE)
BO (BOOT)
SAD THING IS, HE'S GOT A POINT.
...THIS NAGAHAMA GUY ISN'T SHOWING UP.
IS THIS GUY REALLY SUPPOSED TO BE ALL THAT GOOD?
HE IS RELATED TO (BIWAKO) OKU.
SO...
BAIN (BWANG)
TARIJAAA!

HE PROBABLY ISN'T COMING BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT PEOPLE EXPECTING THINGS FROM HIM, RIGHT, AZUCHI-SENPAI?
YOU KNOW HOW THOSE PAST EXPERIENCES ARE.
WHAT!
UMBRO
HMPH!
HE WAS AMAZ-ING!
BUT WHAT IF THAT WAS ONLY IN ELEMEN-TARY SCHOOL?
HA HA.
AND THEN HE SUCKED
UMBRO
BOOTIRE
IT'S JUST AN EXTRA-CURRICULAR THING.
WHY CAN'T YOU LET HIM DECIDE FOR HIMSELF?
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU MAY HAVE A POINT ...
WHAT IS RAKUICHI DOING...?
AZUCHI'S ALWAYS COOL AND COLLECTED WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF LIKE THAT.
YEAH.
LET'S PLAY SOME VIDEO GAMES!
HEY!
PARTICIPA-TION IS AT EACH PERSON'S DISCRETION.
.....





SIGN: MAIKO'S FLEA MARKET, WELCOME, STEP RIGHT UP, CAPSULE TOYS, PLASTIC FOOD TOYS, WILD TENGU, LOW PRICE!, 1 TRILLION YEN -:SQUAWK:-

BOX, NARA TEA MILK
MA-TSURI!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
HMPH!
CHUU (SLURP)
MM?
FOUND YOU!
GASHA (SHIK)
GA (STOMP)
BLONDE GIRL! THOSE TOYS WEREN'T YOURS!!
RAKUICHI
YAH!
ZUSHA (SLIDE)
PYON (BOING)
DAM-MIT!
THANKS A LOT, KID!
KASHAN (CLATTER)
DA (DASH)
GASHA
WAIT A MINUTE, YOU!
ZARI (GRASH)
HO-HO-HO! YOU THINK YOU CAN CATCH ME WITH WEAK MOVES LIKE THAT?
HEH-HEH!
TRA LA LA!
IN FACT SCREW YOU! DON'T PLAY GAMES!
ARGH!
DA (ZZP)
LIGHTNING KICK! I MEAN, -CK!
ZUDOOO (CRASH)
GURLIN (SPIN)
WHOA!
WHAT THE HELL?

CRAP, HE'S PRETTY FAST!
GRAAH!
!!
DON (BOOM)
WELL, DAMN! IN THAT CASE...
...TAKE THIS!
ZUZA (ZZSH)
!!?
BOX. NARA TEA MILK
HYUN (SWISH)
SHH!
KA (TAK)
YONI
VUN (VMMM)
BA (ZIP)
WH-WHOA !!?
KYU (SCREECH)

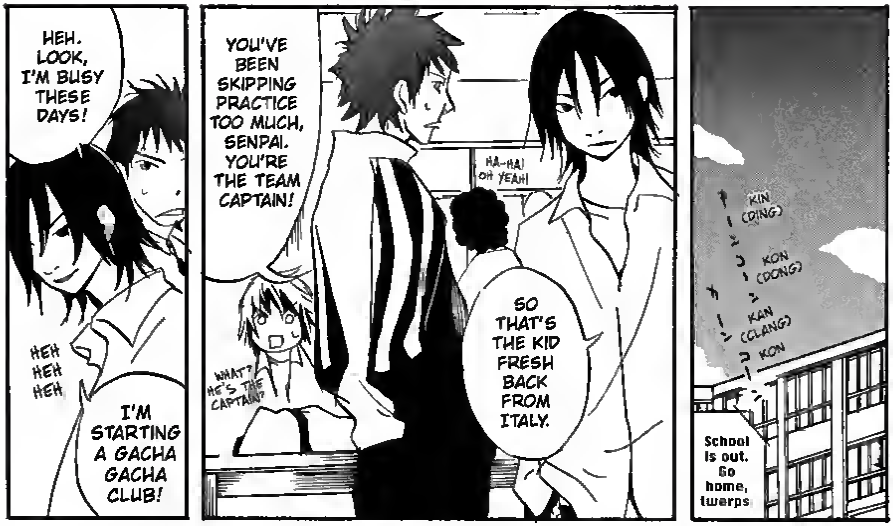
NOW I'VE GOT TO KILL HIM!!!
GO (RUMBLE)
DODGED MY KICK...
TOON
TOON (STONE)
GO
SIGH...
WHY IS SHE RARING TO GO!?
I SEE A DRAGON!
EEEK!
HE DODGED !!?
HIM!?
OUCH!
PAKON (BWOP)
SHE IS CRAZY!!!
I'M GONNA BE MURDERED!
GET BACK HERE, TURD!
EEK!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON WITH ME...?
YO.
I JUST CAME OVER...
WASSUP?
PEKON (THWUMP)
HEY, AZUCHI!
BALL'S LOSING AIR!

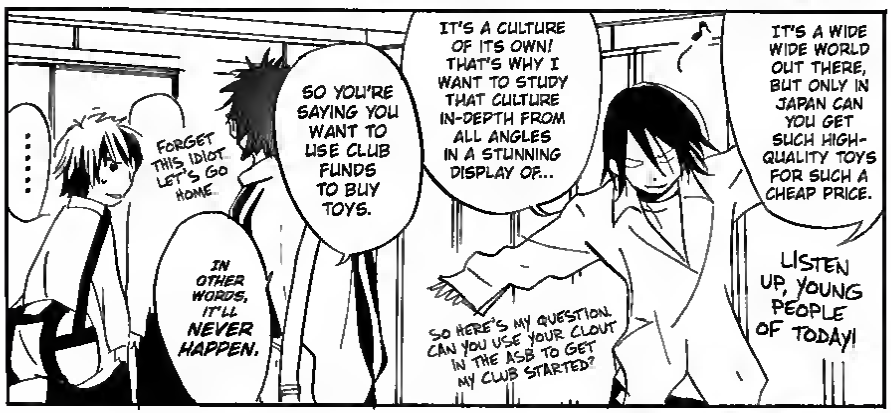
ALSO, THAT FIRST-YEAR WHO TRANSFERRED HERE WAS MIXED UP IN IT TOO.
MAIKO-SENPAI!
THE WORST POSSIBLE COMBO.
...AND I SAW MAIKO AND MATSURI-SENPAI GOIN' AT IT IN THE COURTYARD.
CRAP
OOH!!
ZAWA (MURMUR)
WOW!
KAKIIIN (CRACK)
HE DODGED HER AGAIN!!
HAA (HUFF)
HAA
HAA
OKAY, UH...
ALL I KNOW IS...
NIKOO!
NIKOO!
THERE THEY ARE!

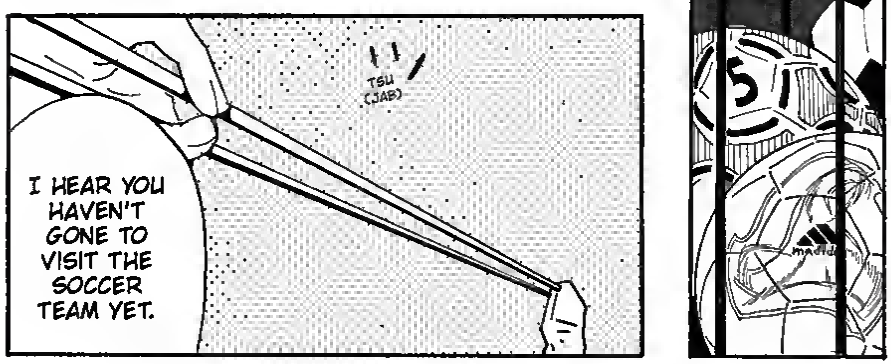
SFX: GAYA (CHATTER) GAYA, ZAWA (MURMUR) ZAWA
...THINGS ARE GETTING REALLY WEIRD...
HAA
HAA
COME ON, MAIKO-SENPAI!
HOW CAN THAT BOY LAST AGAINST MAIKO FOR THREE WHOLE MINUTES?
MAIKO!
HE'S A MONSTER!
MAYBE MAIKO-SENPAI'S IN BAD SHAPE TODAY.
NO WAY, SHE'S AS SHARP AS EVER!
WHICH WOULD MEAN ...
THE BOY HAS GREAT SKILL
IS EVERYONE IN THIS ENTIRE SCHOOL OFF THEIR ROCKER?
SFX: HOWAN (DAZE) HOWAN HOWAN
SHIRT: SOUL FOR BUSINESS
LIKE THAT TIME BACK IN ITALY, WHEN I...
!
TAN (TAP) TAN
IS IT POINTLESS TO LOOK FOR A WAY OUT?
COME ON, FOLKS! TRY YOUR LUCK!
SIGH
SOME THINGS YOU JUST CAN'T CONTROL.
TRAY: BOY / MAIKO, MAIKO VS BOY! PLACE YOUR BETS!
PAY ATTENTION!!
COME ON, KID!
PAKI (CRAK)

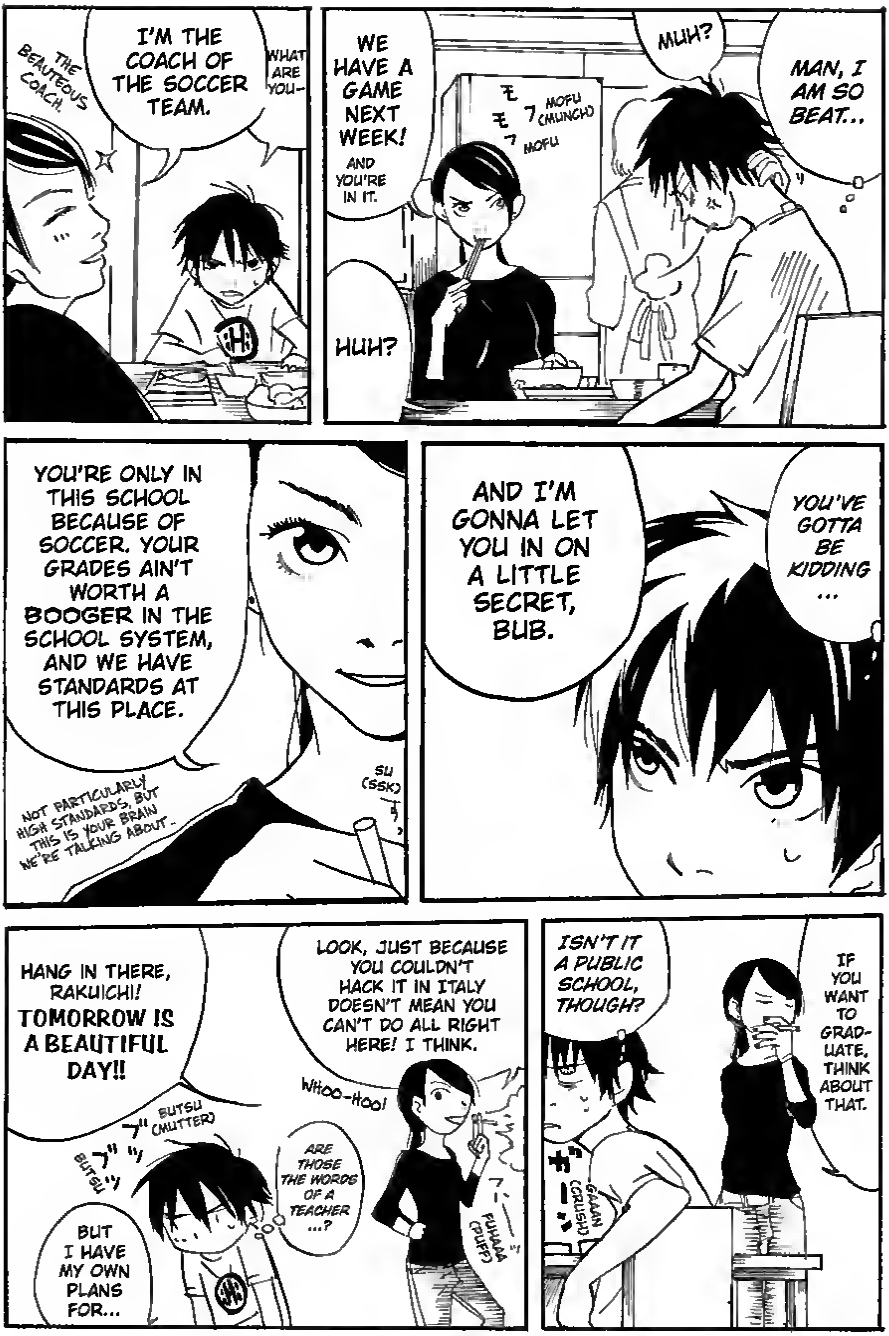
CRAP! LOST MY SLIPPER!
I'M GOIN' DOWN!!!
!?
ZU (SLIP)
GOU (WHOOSH)
ZURU (SLIP)
MEKYA (KRRCH)
PITA (STOP)
GASHI (SNATCH)
.....

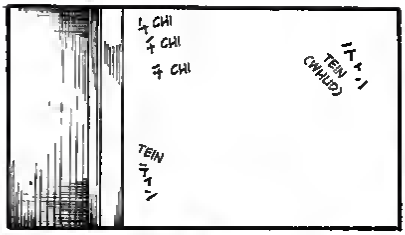
WHAT? IT'S OVER?
TOUZAN ...
THANK GOD!
KNOCK IT OFF, MAIKO!
!!
WHOO! M-A-I-K-O!
WAAAH!
DAMN, OVER ALREADY?
SENPAI! MAIKO-SAMA!
AZUCHI-SENPAI! KYAA!
GYU (GRAB)
URK!
DON'T CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME!!
KYAA! AZUCHI-SENPAI!
HEY!
MAIKOOO!
YOU CREEPY GOON!
GAIA
OUCH, THE KNEE!
GAIA (CHATTER)
DOES THAT MEAN MAIKO-SAMA WON?
SO WHO WON?
GOKI (CRUNCH)
GAKU!
STUPID, IDIOTIC TOUZAN!
OH, SHUT UP!
YOU DO THIS EVERY TIME...
LET GO!
SO TIRED ...
LOSER!
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME...?
FUU (SIGH)
JERK-OFF!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
SHE'S THE BEST
THAT GIRL!
HYO
RAKU... ICHI...
TOO MANY WORDS
EEEK!
AND THE HOUSE KEEPS ALL BETS, FAREWELL!

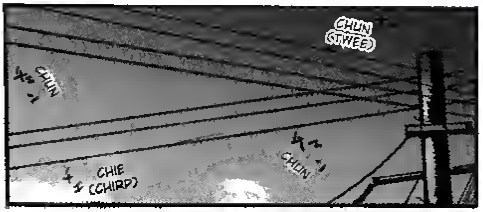

HEH. LOOK, I'M BUSY THESE DAYS!
HEH HEH HEH
I'M STARTING A GACHA GACHA CLUB!
YOU'VE BEEN SKIPPING PRACTICE TOO MUCH, SENPAI. YOU'RE THE TEAM CAPTAIN!
HA-HAI OH YEAH!
WHAT? HE'S THE CAPTAIN?
SO THAT'S THE KID FRESH BACK FROM ITALY.
KIN (CLING)
KON (CLONG)
KAN (CLANG)
KON
School is out. Go home, twerps


.....
FORGET THIS IDIOT. LET'S GO HOME.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN.
SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU WANT TO USE CLUB FUNDS TO BUY TOYS.
IT'S A CULTURE OF ITS OWN! THAT'S WHY I WANT TO STUDY THAT CULTURE IN-DEPTH FROM ALL ANGLES IN A STUNNING DISPLAY OF...
SO HERE'S MY QUESTION. CAN YOU USE YOUR CLOUT IN THE ASB TO GET MY CLUB STARTED?
IT'S A WIDE WIDE WORLD OUT THERE, BUT ONLY IN JAPAN CAN YOU GET SUCH HIGH-QUALITY TOYS FOR SUCH A CHEAP PRICE.
LISTEN UP, YOUNG PEOPLE OF TODAY!

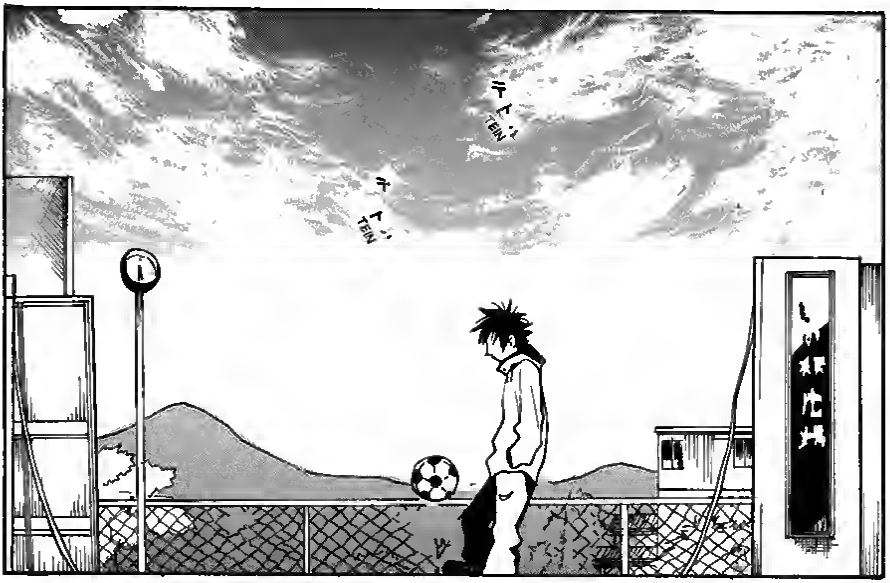

I HEAR YOU HAVEN'T GONE TO VISIT THE SOCCER TEAM YET.
TSU (JAB)


THE BEAUTEOUS COACH.
I'M THE COACH OF THE SOCCER TEAM.
WHAT ARE YOU-
WE HAVE A GAME NEXT WEEK!
AND YOU'RE IN IT.
HUH?
モフ MOFU (MUNCH)
モフ MOFU
MUH?
MAN, I AM SO BEAT...
YOU'RE ONLY IN THIS SCHOOL BECAUSE OF SOCCER. YOUR GRADES AIN'T WORTH A BOOGER IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, AND WE HAVE STANDARDS AT THIS PLACE.
NOT PARTICULARLY HIGH STANDARDS, BUT THIS IS YOUR BRAIN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT..
SU (SSK)
AND I'M GONNA LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE SECRET, BUB.
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ...
HANG IN THERE, RAKUICHI! TOMORROW IS A BEAUTIFUL DAY!!
BUT I HAVE MY OWN PLANS FOR...
ARE THOSE THE WORDS OF A TEACHER ...?
LOOK, JUST BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T HACK IT IN ITALY DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN'T DO ALL RIGHT HERE! I THINK.
Whoo-Hoo!
ISN'T IT A PUBLIC SCHOOL, THOUGH?
GAAAN (CRUSH)
IF YOU WANT TO GRADUATE, THINK ABOUT THAT.





THE NEXT MORNING.



SFX. TA (TMP) TA TA / HA (HUFF) HA

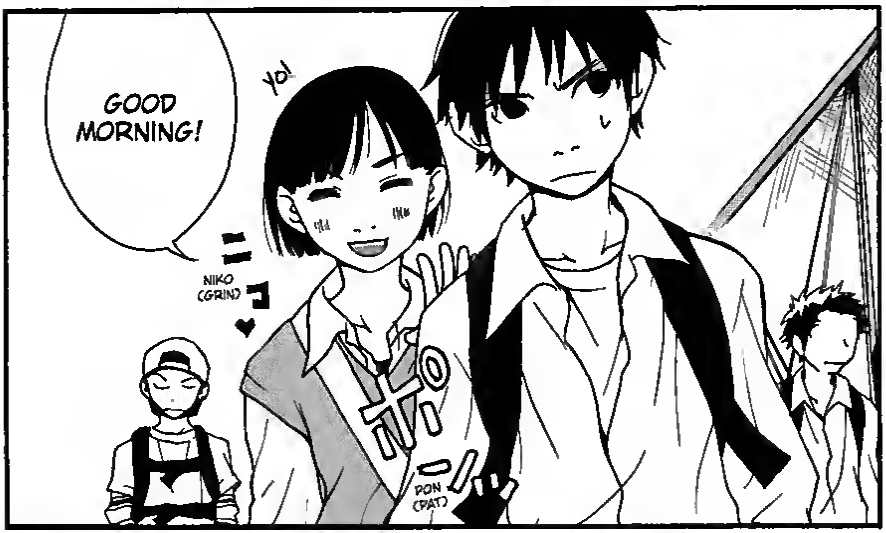
ドン
DOOON
(RUMBLE)
ズドド
(DWAMO)

THAT'S THE FEELING ...
ZUGASHAN (KRRASHH)
ACK!
AH!
!!
CRAP!
AH.
HEY..
SU (SSK)
GU (CLENCH)
TA (TMP) TA TA TA
SHE'S DELIVERING PAPERS!
SORRY ABOUT THAT! YOU OKAY?

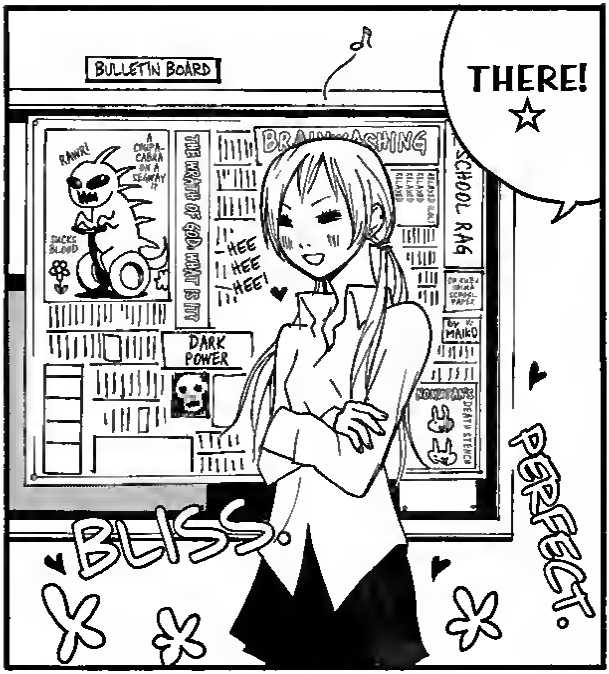
THE BLONDE GIRL AGAIN!
...'ZAT HER JOB?
WHY IS SHE HERE?
CHI (TWEE)
CHI
CHI
KON (DONK)
OH!
BATTARI (CLACK)
SLEEPY AGAIN.
GARA (THUMP)
FUA (YAWN)
SIGN: KAWASE

WELL, WELL.
NII (GRIND)
HMMM ...
.....
OHHH!
BIWAKO BLACKMAILED ME INTO IT... OKAY?
HA HA!
PO (THUD)
YOU HAVE TO COME BY TODAY. YOU HAVE TO.
IN THE END...
AND THEN ...
WELL, GOOD.
...I DID.

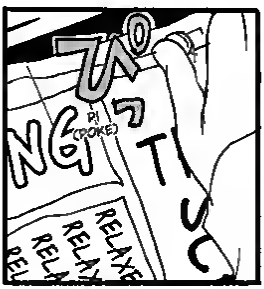
RAKUICHI!
#03
THINGS DON'T ALWAYS TURN OUT THAT WAY.


GOOD MORNING!
yo!
NIKO (GRIN)
PON (PAT)

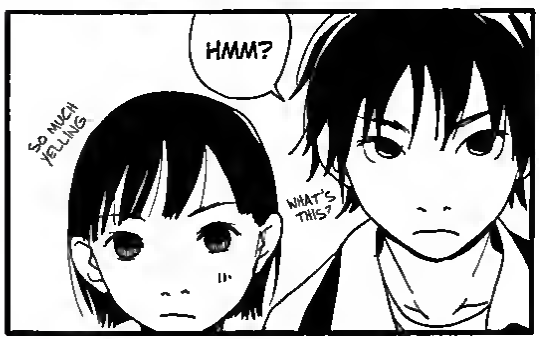
YOU HAVE TO SHOW UP TODAY, GOT IT?


BULLETIN BOARD
THERE!
HEE HEE HEE!
DARK POWER
SCHOOL RAG
BLISS.
PERFECT.

BASA (FLAP)
BA (FLAP)


PI (POKE)
RELAXE

.....!!
YOU HAVE TO COME
I KNOW
GYAA!
.....!!
GYAA!

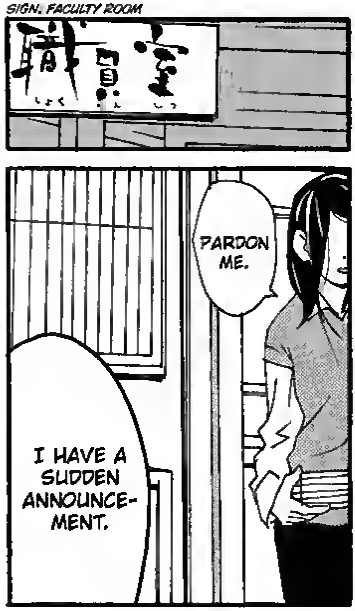

HMM?
SO MUCH YELLING
WHAT'S THIS?

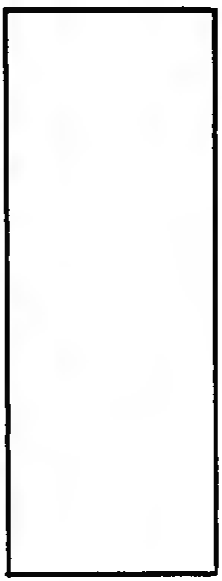
WHAT IS...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ANYWAY?
HM?
MM? TOU-ZAN!

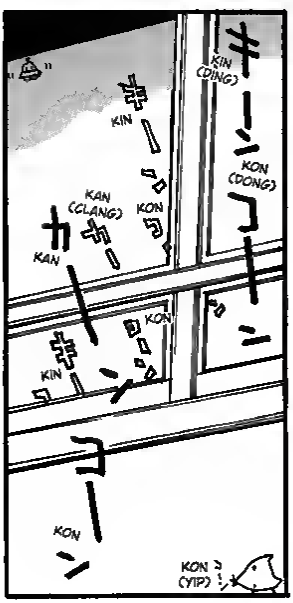
YES, MAIKO-SENPAI IS THE ONLY PERSON IN THE CLUB.
IS THAT RIGHT?
NEWS-PAPER?
IT'S UNOFFICIAL.
.....
OH, SHUT YOUR TRAP.
I'M ONLY DOING MY WORK FOR THE NEWSPAPER CLUB!
THE SCHOOL RA
LISTEN TO ME!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO PUT THESE THINGS UP WITHOUT PERMISSION!
!!?
GAAAN (SHOCK)
YOU CALL THAT A NEWSPAPER? IT'S NOTHING BUT A PARANORMAL TABLOID!
BISHI (JAB)
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT.
GASP!
I SAW HER DELIV-ERING PAPERS IN THE MORN-ING...
MAYBE THAT'S--
SPEAKING OF NEWSPAPERS, THIS REALLY WEIRD PAPER HAS BEEN MAKING THE ROUNDS LATELY...
TA (TAP) TA TA
YOU PIG!

PAPER: THIS PAGE MIGHT SEEM TO BE MOSTLY BLANK, BUT DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU. THERE ARE LOTS OF REASONS FOR THINGS TO HAPPEN THE WAY THEY DO. SOMETIMES YOU ARE BEHIND ON DRAFTING A CHAPTER AND YOU NEED TO CUT DOWN ON TIME NEEDED TO PRODUCE THE ART, SO YOU HAVE TO CUT CORNERS. IT'S A DAILY OCCURRENCE FOR US. SOMETIMES WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPING, YOU FIND THAT A CUTE LITTLE BUNNY HAS TURNED INTO A BULLDOG. IT HAPPENS.

SIGN: FACULTY ROOM



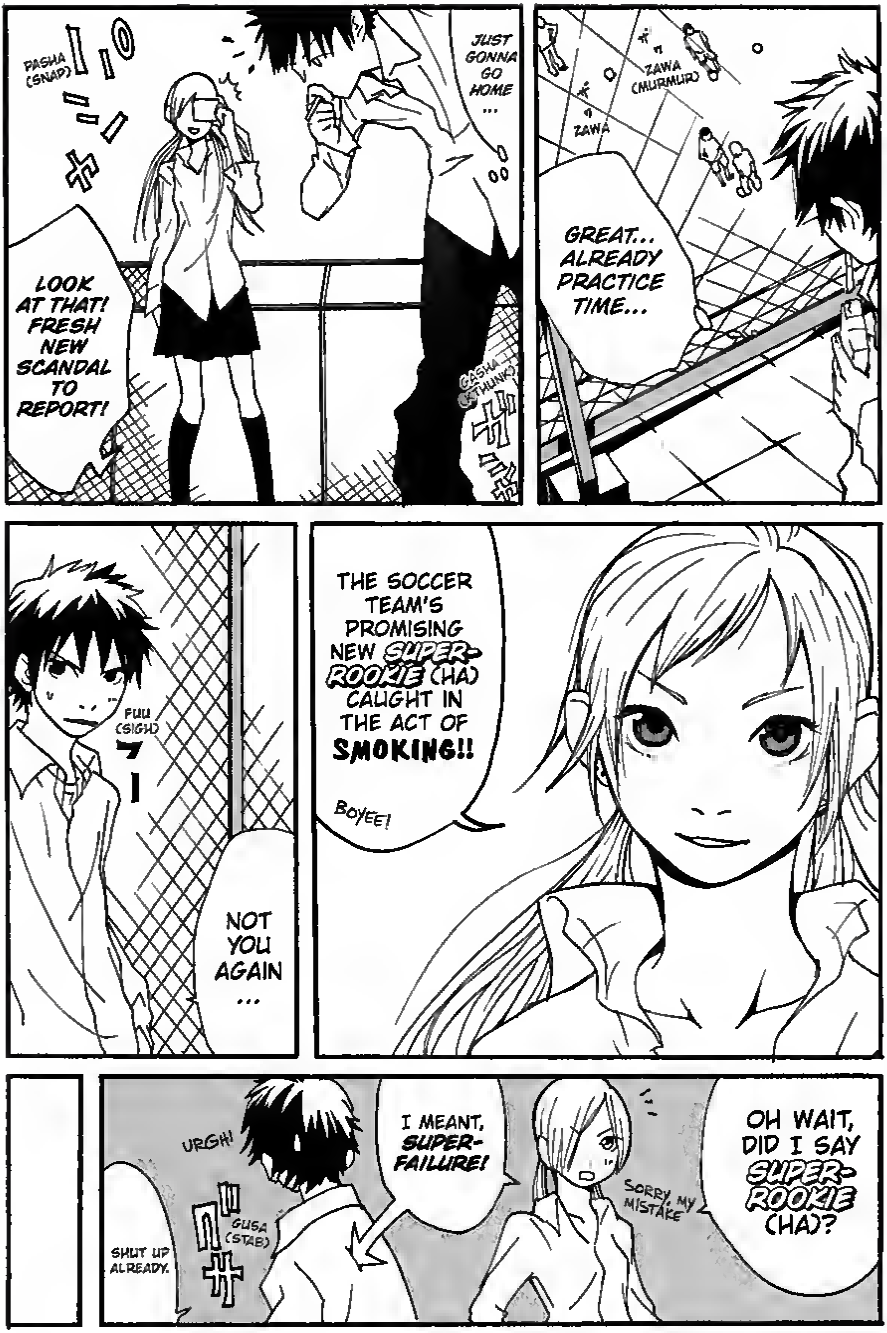


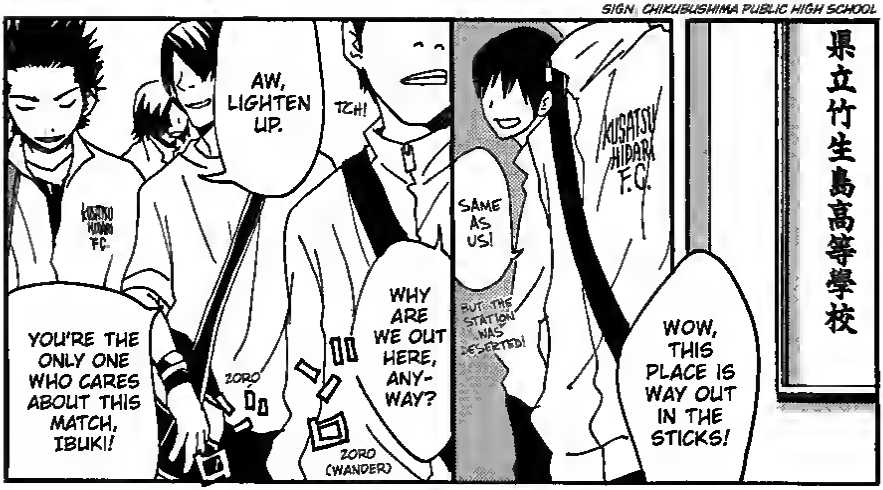


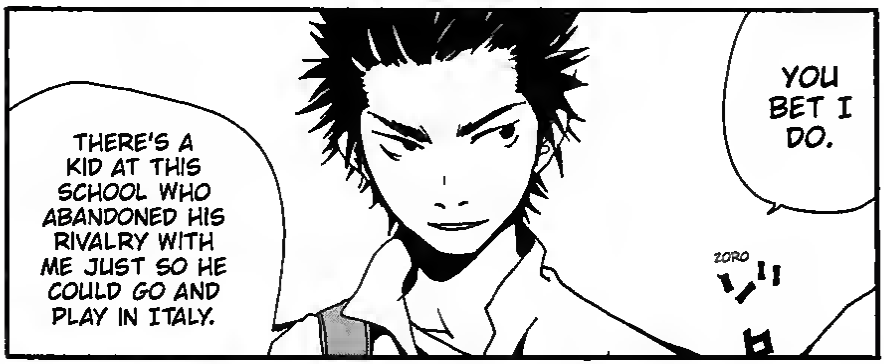
SFX: PIKAAN (FLASH)
OUR OPPONENT: LAST YEAR'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNER-UP, KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH!!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
PAR-DON?
HEH HEH HEH.
WE WILL BE HAVING A MATCH AFTER SCHOOL TODAY.
KIPPARI (BLUNT)
FOR REAL?
KIRAAN (SPARKLE)
FOR REALLY REAL.
.....I'M AMAZED THAT A SCHOOL LIKE THAT WOULD ACCEPT AN OFFER TO PLAY US.
SIGH
THEIR COACH IS THE COACH OF THE REGIONAL TEAM, SEE? HE'S REALLY INTERESTED IN SEEING YOU PLAY IN PERSON.

...IF YOU DON'T TELL US ABOUT IMPORTANT THINGS LIKE MATCHES WELL BEFOREHAND, WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GATHER A FULL TEAM.
BUT SEN-SEI ...
I ALWAYS SAY THIS
LOTS OF GUYS TAKE OFF EARLY...
HA (GASP)
AND HE'S HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT RAKUICHI'S CHILDHOOD PROWESS, SO HE'D LIKE TO SEE THE KID TOO.
I SEE.
KON (DONG)
KIN (DING)
KAN (CLANG)
KON
And that means you, Rakuichi and Matsuri!!
WHAT KIND OF ANNOUNCE-MENT IS THAT?
PROBABLY OKU-SENSEI AGAIN..
Red alert! Soccer team has a friendly match this afternoon! Don't you dare leave early!!
BZZT!
I JUST CAN'T GET THE LEAST BIT EXCITED ABOUT THIS.
LOW-KEY BURNOUT SYNDROME, I GUESS.
GOOD NAP.
MAKE SURE YOU COME TODAY!
OR DIE.
SO SLEEPY
MMMM
YAWN!

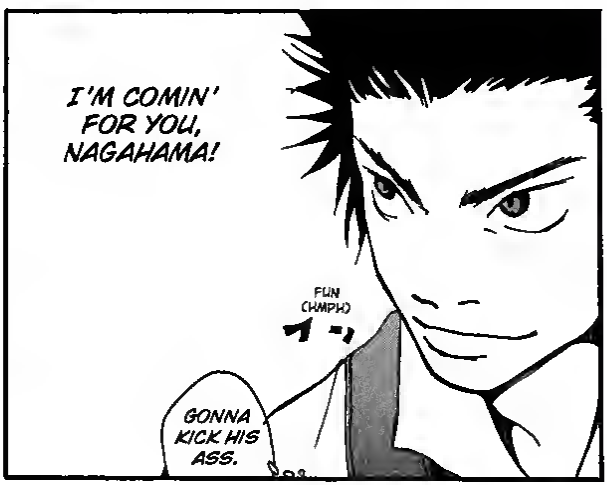
SFX: PIN PON PAN BON (DING-DONG, BING-BONG)


PASHA (SNAP)
JUST GONNA GO HOME ...
LOOK AT THAT! FRESH NEW SCANDAL TO REPORT!
GASHA (THUNK)
ZAWA
ZAWA (MURMUR)
GREAT... ALREADY PRACTICE TIME...
FUU (SIGH)
NOT YOU AGAIN ...
THE SOCCER TEAM'S PROMISING NEW SUPER-ROOKIE (HA) CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF SMOKING!!
BOYEE!
URGH!
SHUT UP ALREADY.
GUSA (STAB)
I MEANT, SUPER-FAILURE!
SORRY MY MISTAKE
OH WAIT, DID I SAY SUPER-ROOKIE (HA)?


県立竹生島高等學校
KUSATSU HIDARA F.C.
WOW, THIS PLACE IS WAY OUT IN THE STICKS!
SAME AS US!
BUT THIS STATION WAS DESERTED!
KUSATSU HIDARA F.C.
AW, LIGHTEN UP.
TCH!
WHY ARE WE OUT HERE, ANY-WAY?
ZORO (WANDER)
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CARES ABOUT THIS MATCH, IBUKI!
ZORO


YOU BET I DO.
ZORO
THERE'S A KID AT THIS SCHOOL WHO ABANDONED HIS RIVALRY WITH ME JUST SO HE COULD GO AND PLAY IN ITALY.

SENSEI, THE OTHER TEAM IS HERE.
ZORO
ZORO
yo!
ZORO


I'M COMIN' FOR YOU, NAGAHAMA!
FUN (HMPH)
GONNA KICK HIS ASS.

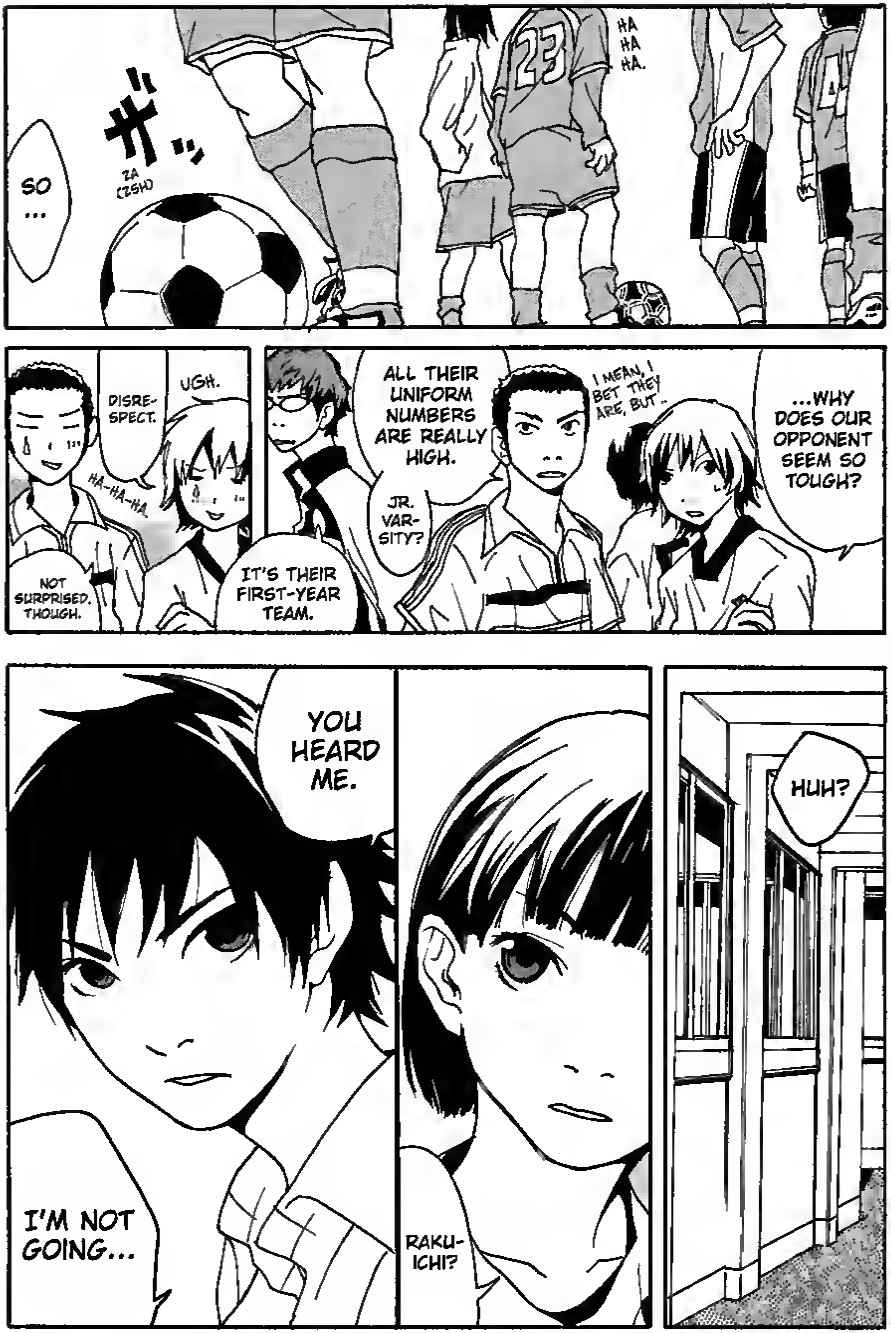
I TOLD YOU, YOU NEED TO GIVE US PRIOR WARNING.
IRA
イラ
WE HAVE A MATCH TO PLAY!
IS IT ME, OR IS OUR SQUAD LOOKING RATHER THIN?
IRA (IRK)
イラ
WHAT'S WRONG, SENSEI?
INAE-CHAN'S GONE LOOKING FOR THEM.
プンスカ！
PUNSUKA (HUMPH!)
WHERE IS RAKUICHI? WHERE IS MATSURI!?
I'M SO ANGRY!
ARRGH! I CAN'T TAKE IT!
CALM DOWN!
FIT TO BURST!!
CAN'T YOU BE AN ADULT AND KEEP IT TOGETHER?
HAA (SIGH)
ハア……
SFX: SUTA (STOMP) SUTA
YES, QUITE A NICE SNAPSHOT...
DIGITAL
HEH HEH HEH.
WAA (YAMMER)
ワー！
FILL UP OUR MISSING POSITIONS WITH KIDS FROM THE BASE-BALL TEAM!
SENSEI, THAT'S SO RUDE!
WAA
ワー！

"WHAT-FOR"?
THEN I'LL GET ALL THOSE GUYS INTO THE NEWSPAPER CLUB AND RAKE IN TONS OF FUNDS!
BWA HA HA!
THEN STEAL IT ALL.
IT'S THE PURRFECT PLAN! ☆
GU (CLENCH)
FUFUN (HUHUM)
NOW I CAN PRESSURE THEM INTO SCRAPPING THE SOCCER TEAM. THAT'LL REALLY BE GIVING TOUZAN A WHAT-FOR!
.....
WHAT MAKES HER ACT THIS WAY ALL THE TIME?
.....
SHE'S SO HYPER.
...I DON'T CARE.
SO...
...WHY DOES AN ATHLETE TAKE UP SMOKING, ANYWAY?
ARE YOU JUST AN IDIOT?

SH-
AND YET YOU STAND ON THE ROOF OF THE SCHOOL, WATCHING THE FIELD...
...FULL OF LONGING?
KAA (SIGH)
EYES CLOUDED WITH THE HAZE OF SMOKE AND MEMORIES?
SHUT UP! NO!
I'M...
...QUITTING SOCCER FOR GOOD.
SH- SHUT UP ALREADY!
WOW.
WHAT A TOOL.
OR MAYBE— PFFT! PLAYING THE PART OF THE TRAGIC, DRAMATIC HERO? IN YOUR HEAD?
PFFFF!
DAMN...
BETTER WRITE AN EMBARRASSING ARTICLE BEFORE I FORGET THIS STUFF!
OH BABY!
IT'S SOLID GOLD!
DA (DASH)
D-DON'T!
DA

TCH! PISSES ME OFF!
GA (WHAK)
FULL OF LONGING...
HAA (SIGH)
WHAT'S THAT CHICK'S PROB-LEM...!?
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT TO...
WHAT-EVER.
PATA (STARE)
RAKUICHI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE!?
PATA
PATA

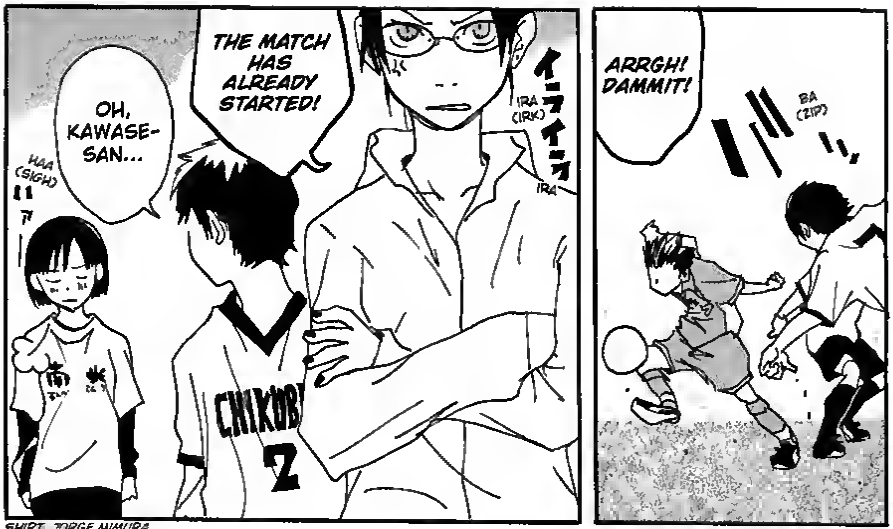
YOU SAID YOU WOULD COME TODAY!
LET'S GO TO THE FIELD!
PATA
SO COME ON!
IT TURNS OUT WE HAVE A FRIENDLY MATCH, AND WE MIGHT NOT HAVE ENOUGH PLAYERS TO FORM A TEAM.
GUI (TUG)
BOIN (BOING)


SO...
ZA (ZSH)
HA HA HA.
...WHY DOES OUR OPPONENT SEEM SO TOUGH?
I MEAN, I BET THEY ARE, BUT..
ALL THEIR UNIFORM NUMBERS ARE REALLY HIGH.
JR. VARSITY?
IT'S THEIR FIRST-YEAR TEAM.
UGH.
DISRESPECT.
HA-HA-HA.
NOT SURPRISED, THOUGH.
HUH?
YOU HEARD ME.
I'M NOT GOING...
RAKUICHI?

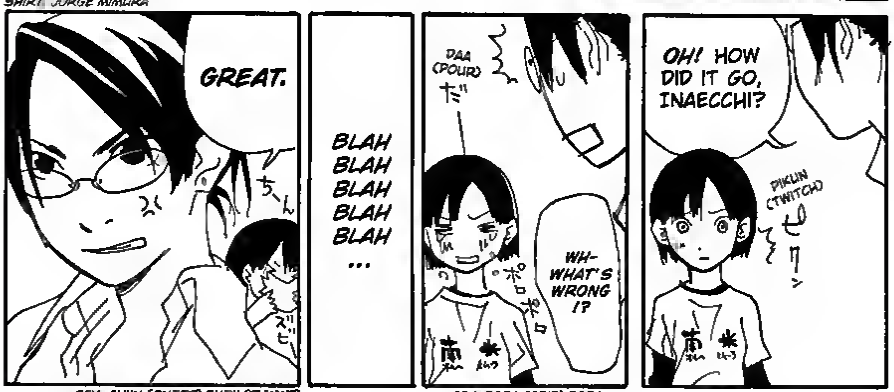
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO SELFISH!?
OOF!
GUI (YANK)
WAIT!
IT'S DUMB
AND BOR-ING.
RAKU-ICHI!
COME ON!
YOU LOVE SOCCER AND YOU KNOW IT!
GYAA (YANK)
RAKUICHI!
GYAA (YANK)
JUST COME!
YOU SAID YOU WERE COMING THIS AFTER-NOON!
WHY NOT!?
WERE YOU LYING!?
I'M NOT BEING SELFISH!
YES, YOU ARE!
GEEZ!
WOULD YOU JUST SHUT UP?

LEAVE ME ALONE!
ビクッ
BIKU (FLINCH)
SFX. PORO (DRIP) PORO
SHIRT: JORGE MIMURA
HUH!?
NNH...
ポロポロ
TT
DAA (POUR)
NO WAAAY!!
HONESTLY!
FUU (SIGH)
じわ・
JIWA (TEARY)
I WAS JUST REALLY EXCITED ...
SNIFF
...TO SEE YOU PLAYING SOCCER AND HAVING FUN LIKE YOU USED TO...
SNIFF
ひっく
HIKKU (HIC)
I...
WHY?
I WAS JUST...
NO
UMM
ER...

SFX. ORO (PANIC) ORO ORO
YOU BIG DING-DONG!!
YOU KNOW WHAT? FORGET YOU!
GAAN (SHOCK)
AUGH!
"DING-DONG" !?
DA (DASH)
UMM, INAE-CHAN ...
WH-WH-WHAT DO I DO?
AND THIS IS WHAT I GET...
オロオロ
.....
SNIFF
HA (GASP)
WHAT IF SOMEONE SAW THAT?
YIKES ...
.....
TA (TMP)
TA
TA
TA
...YOU SAW THAT?
ACK!
HEY
... HINO-SAN...
RAAH!
I SAW THE WHOLE THING.
START TO FIN-ISH.
SORRY

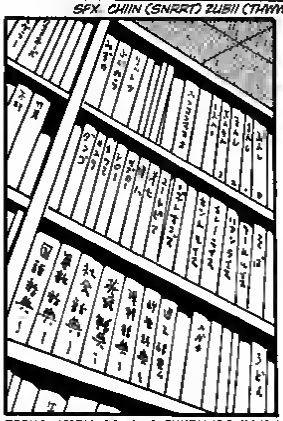


SHIRT: JORGE MIKLIRA



SFX: CHIIN (SNRRT) ZUBII (THWWT)

SFX: PORO (DRIP) PORO



BOOKS: UTOPIA, ST. LOUIS, DUMPLINGS, MAYONNAISE, JAPANESE DICTIONARY, ENGLISH DICTIONARY, SOCIAL DICTIONARY, MATH DICTIONARY, ETC.

WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO CLAIM THAT ONE OF YOU IS IN THE WRONG... WHY DON'T YOU JUST PLAY SOCCER?
ARE YOU GOING TO BE OKAY, RAKUICHI-KUN?
I MADE HER CRY. WHAT'M I GONNA DO?
HAA (SIGH)
IT'S JUST NOT FUN ANYMORE ...
I DUNNO ...
IN FACT, YEAH. WHY DON'T YOU PLAY SOCCER?

IT FELT GOOD TO CURVE A KICK, OR DRIBBLE THE BALL PAST A DEFENDER.
I WAS STOKED WHEN I COULD LIFT IT.
WHEN I WAS A KID, IT WAS FUN JUST TO KICK THE BALL AROUND.
...BUT OVER TIME, THE RATCHETING STRESS AND PRESSURE JUST GOT TO ME...
...THE MORE THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU EXPECT THOSE RESULTS ALL THE TIME.
I MANAGED TO PUT UP WITH IT AT FIRST...
WINNING A MATCH WAS AMAZING...
THE THING IS, THE MORE YOU WIN AND THE MORE GOALS YOU SCORE...

I NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS!!
WE JUST... MOVED THERE!
WAIT A MINUTE! SO YOU WEREN'T THERE TO PLAY SOCCER?
!!
AND THEN, AS IT HAPPENED, MY FATHER GOT A WORK ASSIGNMENT OVER IN ITALY, SO WE MOVED THERE—
NOPE.
BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES WHEN YOU'RE COMPETITIVE.
I HATED TO LOSE, AND I DID LOSE.
WHA!? MY GOODNESS!
OF COURSE, I DID PLAY SOCCER WHILE I WAS THERE.
GAGA (BIZZT)
HE SEEMS REALLY UNCOOPERATIVE...
I THINK I JUST LIKE PLAYING SOCCER FOR FUN.
Alert from the soccer team!
YEAH
SO YOU SEE, THAT'S WHY I HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT JOINING THE TEAM HERE.
AND EVENTUALLY I CAME BACK HERE!
By myself
YOU DIDN'T PICK IT UP AFTER THREE YEARS?
BUTSU (MUTTER)
AND I COULDN'T SPEAK ITALIAN.
I FOUGHT WITH MY TEAMMATES AND COACH, AND I GOT HURT.
BUTSU

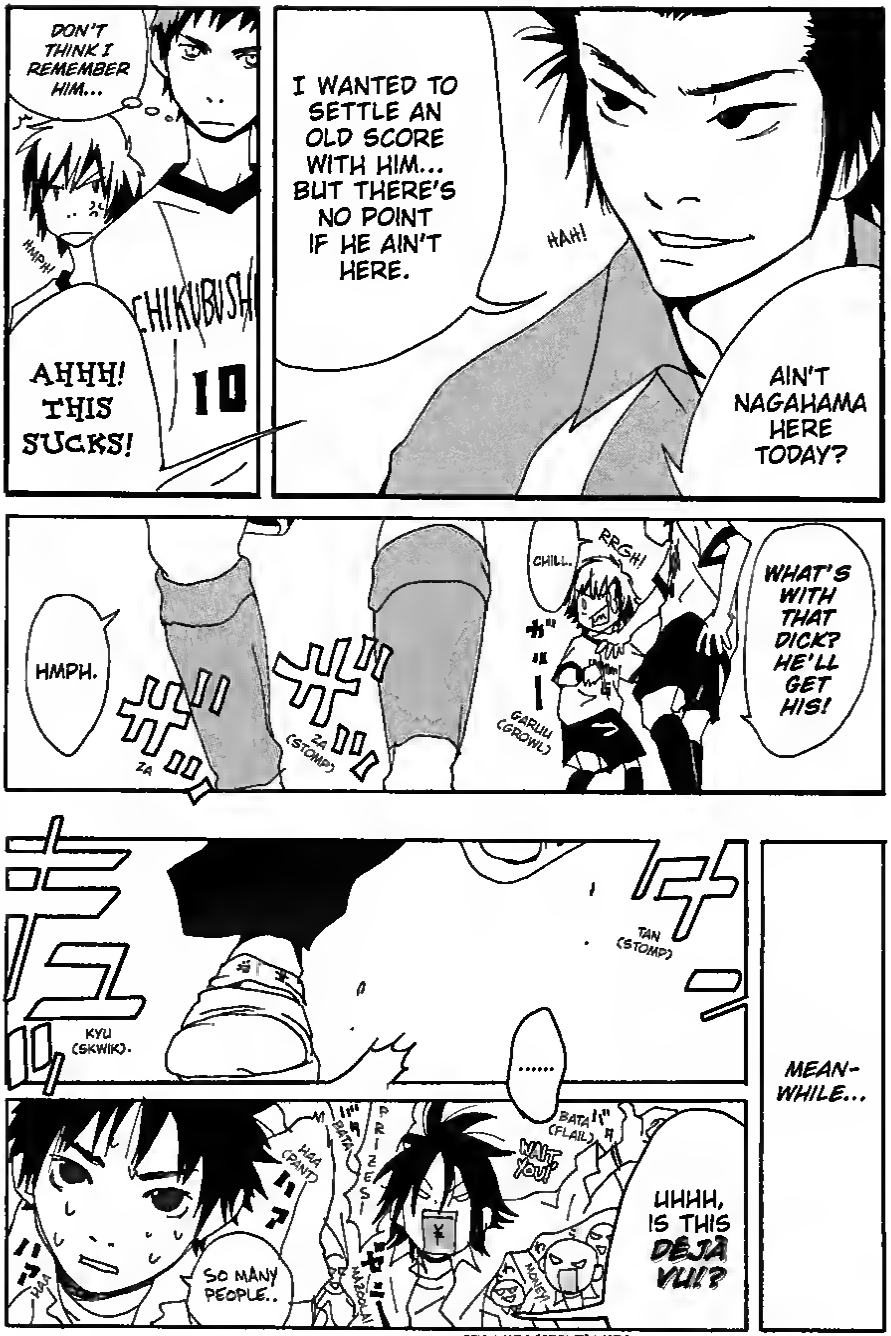
SFX: PIN BON (DING-DONG) PAN BON (DANG-DONG)

We are looking for super-rookie Rakuichi Nagahama (16), fresh home from Italy!
?
This is an emergency announcement from the soccer team!
A student is wanted for ditching today's friendly match against soccer powerhouse Kusatsu Hidari High!
The principal will present these glorious, thoughtful prizes directly to you upon delivery of the quarry!
ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT HIM?
HMM
!!
WHAT THE...?
GATA
GATA (RATTLE)
We'll be waiting at the school field! See you there, lucky winner!!
Whoever captures him will be given exemption from exams, exclusive holidays from school, the right to choose the school field trip destination, and more!
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
SERIOUSLY

SIGN: MÖTLEY CRÜE - NEW TATTOO / SHIRT: PRINCIPAL

SIGN: FIRE ALARM

SFX: KUWA (ROAR)
LET'S GET BACK TO THE GAME!
THE PRINCIPAL OF KUSATSU HIDARI IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, IN FACT. FROM A YOUNG AGE, WE WERE FIERY RIVALS IN LOVE, SPORTS, AND ACADEMICS. (HE WON ALL OF THEM.) THAT IS WHY I ARRANGED THIS MATCH—TO AVENGE MY MANY YEARS OF PAINFUL DEFEAT...
'KAY!
BUTSU-BUTSU (MUTTER)
IS THIS REALLY RIGHT, SIR?
HA HA HA.
OF COURSE
RIGHT AS RAIN!
PASA (THWUP)
KORO (ROLL)
YO, DUDE!
UH... DO I KNOW YOU?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER? I'M IBUKI! WE PLAYED TOGETHER FOR THE REGIONAL TEAM!
SHIKUBUSHIMA
KUSATSU
WHAT ARE THEY DOING ...?
HAA (SIGH)
GOOOAL!
YEAAAH!
DON'T CALL IT YOUR-SELF
28


DON'T THINK I REMEMBER HIM...
HMPH!
CHIKUBUSHI
10
AHHH! THIS SUCKS!
I WANTED TO SETTLE AN OLD SCORE WITH HIM... BUT THERE'S NO POINT IF HE AIN'T HERE.
HAH!
AIN'T NAGAHAMA HERE TODAY?
HMPH.
ZA
ZA (STOMP)
CHILL.
RRGH!
GARUU (GROWL)
WHAT'S WITH THAT DICK? HE'LL GET HIS!
KYU (SKWIK).
TAN (STOMP)
.....
MEAN-WHILE...
SO MANY PEOPLE..
HAA (PANT)
BATA (FLAIL)
WAIT YOU!
PRIZES
UHHH, IS THIS DÉJÀ VU!?
SFX. WARA (CROWD) WARA

ZAN (SWOOSH)
!?
SARA (SWISH)
キラ
KIRA
キラ
KIRA (SPARKLE)
HA (GASP)
MAIKO-SENPAI!
SENPAI!
WAH!
WAH!
EEK!
NOT AGAIN!
BA (ZOOOM)
!!!
BLAAAGH!!
BLAMOOO (SWOOOSH)
ORYAAAH!!
KYAAAAA!!
MAIKO
MAIKO
MAKE LOVE TO ME!
YOU'RE THE BEST!
SENPAI!
BAKAAAZE!
GA (CRAAK)

ACK!
!!
GURA (SLIP)
CHIKUBA
10
AZUCHI-SENPAI
HELL, YEAH! CRUSH THOSE LOWLIFES!
NICE ONE!
GU (CLENCH)
CHIKUBA
YEOW!
DOSA (THUD)
PASHI (THAK)
10

GET ON BACK, PEOPLE!
ALL RIGHT!
I SCREWED UP.
SUKA (SWISH)
KORO (ROLL)
ZNOOPI
HELL, YEAH—
AWW!
HAH! LUCKY ME
IGNORED.
HMPH.
EH? EH?
MUST SUCK NOT BEING ABLE TO TRUST YOUR FORWARDS.
HA HA!
TA (TMP)
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT THERE!? YOU SUCK! YOU SUCK! YOU SUCK!!
EEK!
I'M SORRY!
CHIKUBUSHA
10
KUSHIDA
7
SFX. PUN (SWING) PUN
I WOULD HAVE MADE IT, EASY.
HEH
HEH
HEH
HEH
MATSURI-SENPAI?
BIKU! (FLINCH)
WHOA, YOU'RE CLOSE!!
AZUCHI PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE SHOT THAT ONE STRAIGHT TO GOAL.
GODDAMN!
ARGH!
HMPH.
HE WASTED SENPAI'S GREAT PASS...
SFX. SORORI (SNEAK)

AND WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!? YOU'RE THE TEAM CAPTAIN!!
AND YOU DARE CALL ME AN OLD MAID!?
PAKON (WHACK)
YEOW!
WE CAUGHT HIM, SO HAND OVER ALL THE PRIZE MONEY, OLD MAID.
I WANT ATTENDANCE CREDIT!
SO ANYWAY...
WAKU (GIDDY) WAKU
DOKI (BADUMP)
DOKI
SHIKU (SLOP)
SHIKU
.....
HEWP ME
DEEN (FLOP)
RAKU-ICHI!
SFX: KLINE (WRIGGLE) KLINE
PAGHA (SNAP)
PUH (SNUB)
AAAH!
BETTER WATCH THE MATCH
GET CHANGED AND ON THE FIELD!
PAKON
.....
UH...HI AGAIN...
AGAIN?
BO (BOOM)
OH NO, FREE SHOT!
NICE AND EASY!

.....
JI (STARE)
じっ…
ACK.
WHATCHA GONNA DO, HUH? WHAT'S THE PLAN, RAKUICHI-KUN? GAME'S ON THE LINE!
HEY!
YO!
MAN!
SO CLOSE!
KAN (CLANG)
カン
GUESS I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE!
WHOA, SO CORNY!
YOU WANT ME IN? I'M IN THE MATCH!
OH FINE, FINE!
FUN CHAMP!!
フン!
GIMME A UNIFORM!
PFFT!
SHUT UP!
HE'S BLUSHING! WHAT A DWEEB!

HISO (WHISPER)
RIGHT AFTER HE SAID HE QUIT SOCCER
HISO
PFFT!
WHAT?
CHIKUBUSHIMA
16
ZA (SKFF)
FUN (HMPH)
CHIKUBUSHIMA
11
CHIKUBUSHIMA
16
ZUBAAAAN (KAPOWWW)
GASU (CHOP)
OKAY, LISTEN UP!
FIFTEEN MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF, WE'RE DOWN 2-0. THEIR TEAM IS THE SECOND OR THIRD STRING, ALL FIRST-YEARS, BUT THEY'RE PRETTY GOOD.
I CAN SEE WHY THIS TEAM WAS #2 IN THE NATION LAST YEAR.

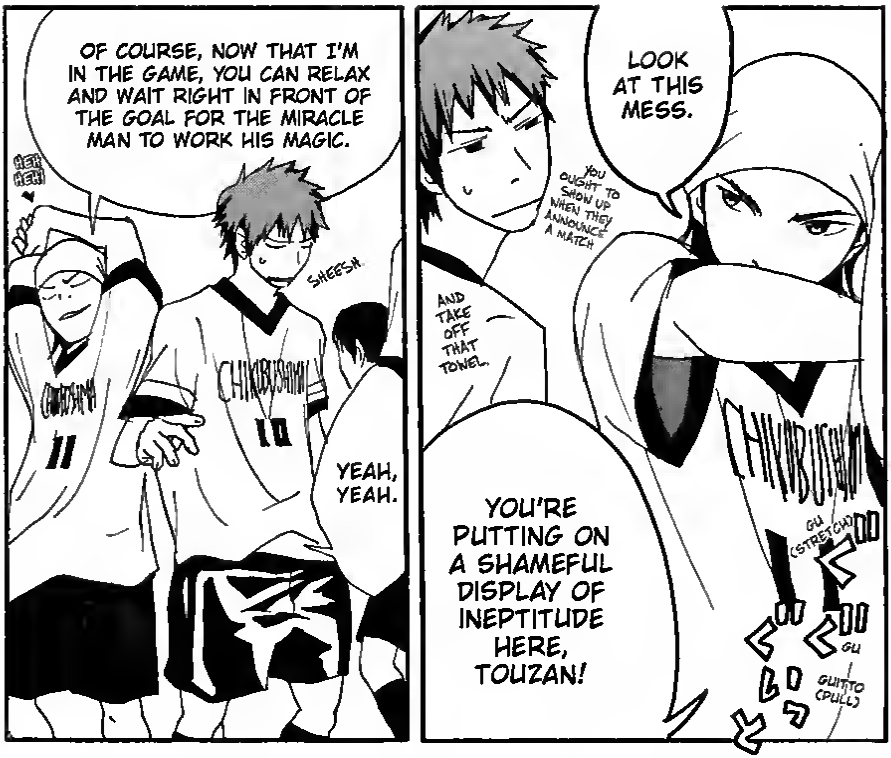
TONE! CHECK!
KYU! (TUG)
RIGHT!
WHAT KIND OF ORDERS ARE THOSE?
SO I WANT YOU TWO TO GO OUT THERE AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!!
SHUPPIN (SHOOING)
KIRIRI (CORNER)
...AND SCORE A GOAL FOR YOU.
HEEEY!
I'LL GO...
!
SOMEONE COME OUT OF THE GAME!
SHIRT: JORGE MIMURA
CHIRA (PEEK)
.....
...OKAY.
AH.....
JUST LIKE HE USED TO SAY.

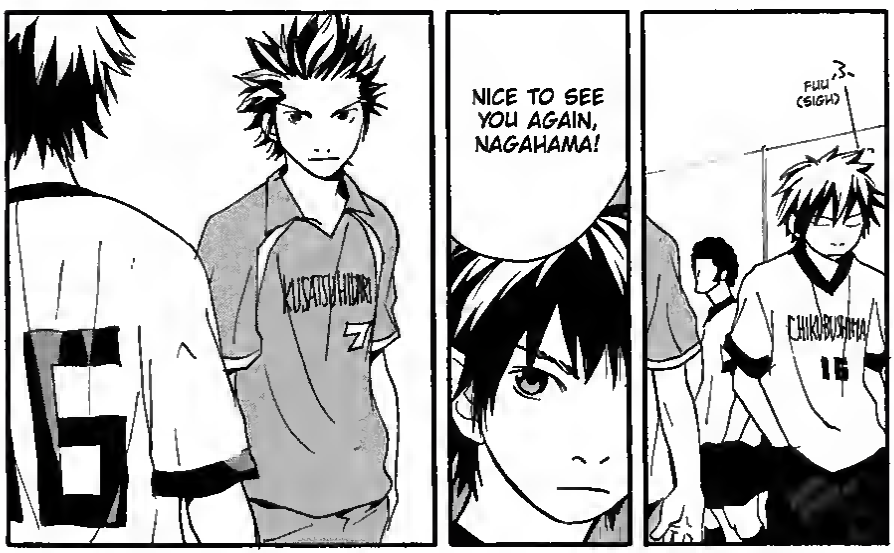
AND WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL MINUTES...
CRUSH THEM!
FINISH THEM!
WHO?
HM? IS THAT HIM?
THE KID WHO CAME BACK FROM ITALY.
PIPPI
PIPPI (WHISTLE)
PLAYER SUBSTITUTION!
...THE ENTIRE FIELD WAS TREATED TO A SIGHT SO WILD, THEY COULD HARDLY BELIEVE THEIR EYES.

SHIRT: JORGE MIMURA

...TO WATCH HIM PLAY.
16

WE DIDN'T EVEN NEED YOU TO COME ALONG AND PLAY WITH THE FIRST-YEARS, IBUKI!
#10'S THE ONLY ONE WHO AIN'T TOTAL CRAP
KUSATSUHIDARI
26
KUSATSUHIDARI
7
MAN, THIS TEAM HAS NOTHING GOING ON!
HEH.
YOU MAY BE CHANGING YOUR TUNE IN A BIT.
NIYARI (SMIRK)
LOOKS LIKE...
...OUR MAN HAS FINALLY SHOWN HIS FACE.


OF COURSE, NOW THAT I'M IN THE GAME, YOU CAN RELAX AND WAIT RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE GOAL FOR THE MIRACLE MAN TO WORK HIS MAGIC.
HEH HEH
SHEESH
YEAH, YEAH.
LOOK AT THIS MESS.
YOU OUGHT TO SHOW UP WHEN THEY ANNOUNCE A MATCH
AND TAKE OFF THAT TOWEL.
YOU'RE PUTTING ON A SHAMEFUL DISPLAY OF INEPTITUDE HERE, TOUZAN!
GU (STRETCH)
GU
GUITTO (PULL)


NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, NAGAHAMA!
FUU (SIGH)

KIPPARI (FRANKLY)
WHILE YOU WERE GONE, I'VE—
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU KNOW ME
HEH
HEH HEH HEH

BACK IN POSITION, IBUKI!
PII (TWEE)
NAGA-HAMA!
YEAH!
PUI (SPIN)
WHO CARES!?
WHEN WE WERE KIDS, WE
GAAAN (GONGGG)
SHOCK!
WHAAAT!?

HE'LL REMEMBER ME ONCE HE SEES ME PLAY!
DAMN, DAMN, DAMN!!
DAMN!
I'M NOT CRYING! NOT ME!
DA (DASH)

RAAHH!

TAYAH!
RAHH!
HMM, YES...
RAHH!
HYO! (ZIP)
COME ON, RAKUICHI... COME ON, GUYS!
HANG IN THERE!
COME ON, AZUCHI-SENPAI.
GU (GRIP)
...THIS TEAM IS CONSIDERED A POWERHOUSE FOR GOOD REASON. THEY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER ON THE RIGHT!?
KIERI (POSE)
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, SENSEI!?
I WANT YOU ON FORWARD. STAY NEAR THE TOP.
NO?
WE WON'T RUN A STRIKE TEAM OFFENSE.
JUST BE ALERT, AND IF YOU GET THE BALL, GO ALL THE WAY TO THE FINISH WITH IT.
TA (TMP)
DAMN! BALL'S NOT GETTING ANY NEARER...
NAGA-HAMA!

WHO'S HE?
TA
TA
TA
16
SHOW US THAT DRIBBLING AGAIN.
I'M SURE HE'S GOING TO GET INTO THE ACTION, WHICH WILL HELP.
HEH HEH HEH!
HYAA!
YOU AIN'T GONNA GET A CHANCE TO SHINE THIS TIME, NAGAHAMA!
IT'S HIM AGAIN!
DA (DASH)
AUGH!
GAKU (SLUMP)
TSK!
THE IBUKI HIGHLIGHT REEL IS ABOUT TO BEGIN, SUCKER!
RAHH!
DA (DASH)

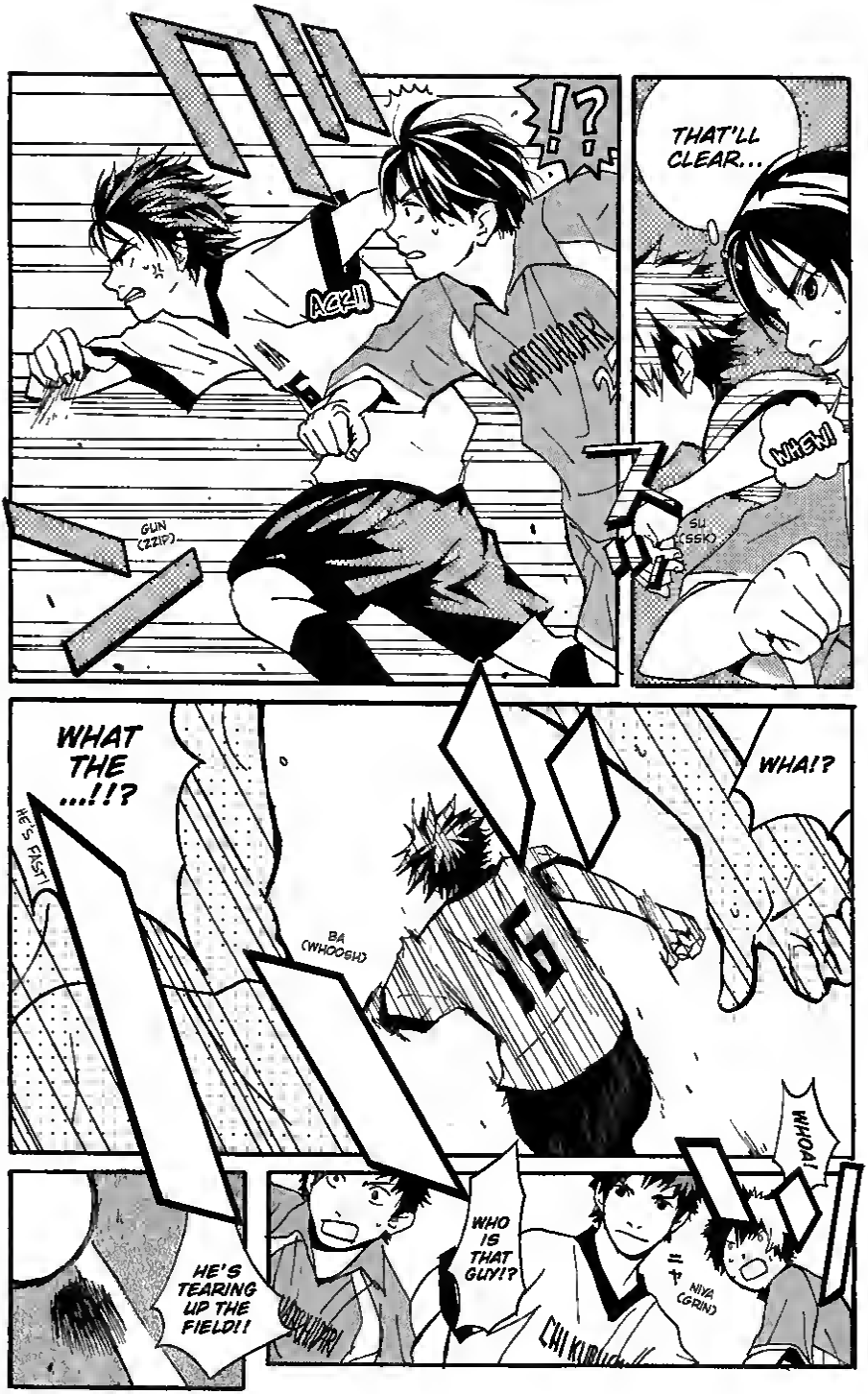
EII!
!
CHIKUSHIMA
11
EI (EIINK)
WAKE UP, YOU IDIOT!!
BA (LOOM)
DO
KURURI (SPIN)
WAY TO GO, MATSURI-SENPAI!
HMM... THAT FELLOW THERE...
COACH?
!!!
WHA!?
PI (BIINK)

SUR-ROUND HIM!!
SU (SSK)
DAMN!
THIS GUY...
CRAP! NOT HIM AGAIN!
HMPH!
ZAN~ (SLIP)
NICE TRY, GENTS
HAHAHA
TAKE THIS!
IT'S MINE!
TAKE THIS!
HYOI (ZIP)
YARRGH!
HYOI
TO (TONK)
GA (TRIP)
YOU'LL NEVER STOP ME...
HMM? WHAT IS IT...
L-LOOK AT HIM!!
COACH?

がちょーん! GACHOOON (KADOINK)

DA (DASH)
GO BACK, NAGAHAMA! GET OPEN!!
UH... RIGHT!
THAT GUY...
DON'T LET NUMBER ELEVEN PASS THE BALL!!
ANSWER MY QUESTION
IT CAN'T BE!
KILL 'EM!!
BURY 'EM! ERADICATE 'EM!! BI (JAB)
GO, GO, GO!!
HYO! (ZWIP)
SORRY, PAL.
CHIKUBUSHIMA
YOU HEARD HIM! NO CIGAR!
ZA (CRSHH)
HAT (GHSP)

URYAA!
BO (BOOT)
THIS ONE'S YOURS!!
ITALY BOY!!
PIKU (TWITCH)
DON'T SAY THAT WORD!
!?
イタリア?
HYU (ZZIP)
ZA (TSH)
BYU (ZIP)
TOUGH PASS TO PICK UP!!
MOVE, DAMMIT!
SHUT UP!
TITO (THUD)
GA
GA (THNK)
GOOD.
WHEWWW
HOLY COW, WHAT A PASS...
TA (TMP)
RAHH!
WHOA, WAS THAT THIRTY YARDS?
TA
TA


!?
AGH!
KAMIJYOHARA 2
GUN (ZZIP)
THAT'LL CLEAR...
WHEW!
SU (SSK)
WHAT THE ...!!?
HE'S FAST
BA (WHOOSH)
16
WHA!?
WHOA!
WHO IS THAT GUY!?
NIYA (GRIN)
HE'S TEARING UP THE FIELD!!

GA (SNAG)
CHIHIRO SAKAI
15
BA (ZIP)
YOU'RE NOT GETTING PAST ME DAMMIT!
GASHI (GRAB)
YESS!!
GU (GRIP)
RAKUICHI!
MY WORD!
HOW DID HE KEEP THAT BALL IN-BOUNDS !?
GYO (GULP)
ぎょっ

AW, SHIT.
GUN (ZZIP)
ZA (ZSH)
ZUZA (SLIDE)
HUH!?
BI (BING)
CHIRARI (PEEK)
BRING IT!
BA (MMF)
! DON'T THINK SO!
COMING THIS WAY?
PIKU (TWITCH)
OTHER WAY!
BI (ZIP)
ZUBATTO (ZWOOP)
WHOA!

GUN (ZOOM)
HE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT...
HA HA
はは
THROUGH THREE GUYS.
AT TOP RUNNING SPEED.
THAT DIRECT DRIBBLE, EXECUTED WITH HIS SICK ATHLETIC SKILLS...
Go!
KYAA!
NONZERS
YEAH!
YOU GOT IT, CHIEF!
ZA (ZSHH)
BE CAREFUL!
HERE COMES NUMBER TEN!!
DA (DASH)
ROGER!
ROGER!
DA (DASH)
MAN, HE'S GOOD.

YOU BET.
SUZA (SWOOSH)
HE CAN TAKE A GOOD SHOT FROM RIGHT WHERE HE IS AND MAKE IT TOO!!!
SFX: NIYARI (SMIRK)
BAIT
HEH HEH
DAMN! #10 TRICKED US!
WE SCREWED UP!
SCREWED THE POOCH!
YOU IDIOTS!
USE YOUR HEADS!
DON'T GIVE HIM ANY SPACE!!
GO (RAWR)
BACHI (SMACK)
OW!
GAH!
BO (BWAM)
AWW, HELL!
HRRGG!
AFTER ALL THAT RUNNING!
AWW!
AAHHH! SO CLOSE!
OW OW OW!
BAIN (BOING)
KAN (CLANGG)
SFX: HAA (PANT) HAA
SFX: GIRI (SQWISH) MEKI (CRAK)

DOKYU (THWUD)
!!
NGH!
AH!
OUCH!
GAN (GONK)

...TCHH.
WE GOT BEATEN BY JUST THREE GUYS...
ARRGH! I JUST ASSISTED AZUCHI'S GOAL!
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
GAAAN (SHOCK)
ZEE (WHEEZE)
HAA (PANT)
COACH IS GONNA YELL AT US
SUTA (STOMP)
SUTA
I TOLD YOU NOT TO GIVE HIM ROOM!

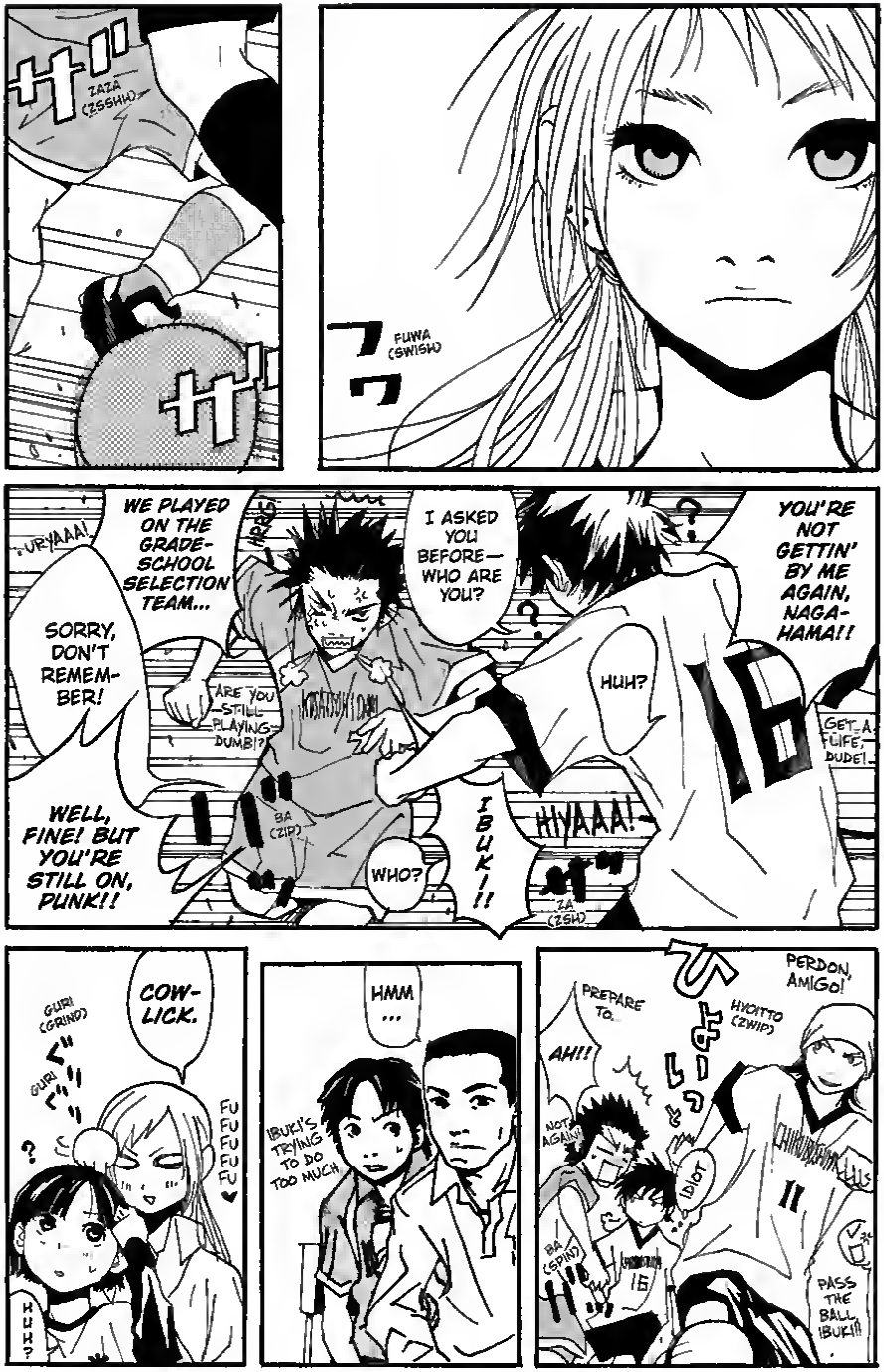
PASA (FFWUP)
SHIT
(TIK)

NICE ONE! KHOROSHO!
GOAAAAL!
NICE SHOT, AZUCHI! NOOO!
YEAAAH!

THAT GUY IS THE REAL DEAL, KID.
YO.
AZUCHI...
GRR!
NU (POP)
NICE PASS, BTW.
NO LIE.
WHO IS THAT GUY, THOUGH? THAT PASS WAS CRAZY...
AMAZING, SENPAI!
HEH HEH.
ALL IN A DAY'S WORK, MY DEAR WATSON!
SO WHY IS HE HERE, THEN?
EVEN THAT COACH OVER THERE.
IF ONLY HE WAS...
ON OUR TEAM...
WE'D BE NO. 1 NOT NO. 2...
ALL THE SCOUTS FROM THE BIGGEST SCHOOLS AROUND WERE CLAMORING TO GET A LOOK AT HIM.
BUT FORGET ABOUT ALL THAT. DID INAE-CHAN SEE THAT SUPER PLAY I JUST PULLED OFF?
HA (GASP)
YAAAy! AZUCHI-SENPAI! KYAA!
DIDN'T NEED THE PUSH OF MY FARTS.
...
WHOO!
YOU'RE THE BEST!
YEAH...
OH... HIS PERSONALITY...
!
OF COURSE... MAKES SENSE.

MINA-KUCHI, EIGENJI! YOU TWO KEEP A LID ON HIM!!
LISTEN TO ME! DON'T LET THAT #11 GET LOOSE WITH THE BALL, WHATEVER YOU DO!
HOKETSU
12
YES, SIR!
DAM-MIT!
...YOU CAN'T HOLD HIM DOWN, IBUKI.
HE WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANY-THING!
LET ME HANDLE HIM, COACH! I CAN DO IT!
STOP THAT, IT'S GROSS
HOW WAS MY FANTASTIC PASS?
PASS WAS FINE
RGH ...
...HE'S JUST WAY BEYOND YOUR LEVEL, SON!
HEH HEH!
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA. YOU'RE A REGULAR STARTER ON OUR SQUAD AS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT. THAT SHOULD BE A SOURCE OF PRIDE FOR YOU. HOWEVER...
GIRI (GRIT)
COME AGAIN, OLD MAN?
RIGID BASTARD

KEEP #10 MARKED MAN-TO-MAN AT ALL TIMES! DON'T GIVE #16 ANY SPACE!
NOW GET OUT THERE!
YES, SIR!
GOTTA STOP HIM NOW!
JUST DON'T LET #11 START PASSING THE BALL!
KEEP DOING WHAT YOU JUST DID, AND KILL 'EM ALL!
...
RAH!
YOU GOT IT!!
HEH HEH.
LISTEN UP, PEOPLE.
ALL RIGHT ...
PASHIN (FWAP)
THIS JUST GOT SO SHONEN-ISH
?
BE AGGRES-SIVE, GUYS!!
YEAH!
OH YEAH!
YOU KNOW IT, BABY!
WELL, FOR STARTERS...
...LET'S GET ONE POINT!
ZA (ZSHH)
HELL, YEAH!


ZAZA (ZSSHH)
FUWA (SWISH)
I ASKED YOU BEFORE—WHO ARE YOU?
WE PLAYED ON THE GRADE-SCHOOL SELECTION TEAM...
URYAAA!
SORRY, DON'T REMEMBER!
ARE YOU STILL PLAYING DUMB!?
BA (ZIP)
WELL, FINE! BUT YOU'RE STILL ON, PUNK!!
WHO?
IBUKI!!
HUH?
YOU'RE NOT GETTIN' BY ME AGAIN, NAGAHAMA!!
HIYAAA!
ZA (ZSH)
GET A LIFE, DUDE!
GURI (GRIND)
COW-LICK.
FUFUFUFU
HUH?
HMM...
IBUKI'S TRYING TO DO TOO MUCH
PERDON, AMIGO!
HYOITTO (ZWIP)
PREPARE TO
AH!!
NOT AGAIN!
IDIOT
BA (SPIN)
PASS THE BALL, IBUKI!!

PRECISE PLAY AT THE POST, KNOWS HOW TO MAKE SPACE FOR HIMSELF, GREAT DECISION-MAKING SKILLS.
THEY'VE GOT #10, AZUCHI, WHO PERFORMS AT A HIGH LEVEL IN ALL FACETS OF THE GAME.
LOOK AT THIS TEAM...
...
HE REACHES TOP SPEED FROM THE VERY FIRST STEP, MAKING HIM VERY FRIGHTENING IN A CLUTCH SITUATION.
THEN THERE'S #16, WHOSE PLAY IS UNPOLISHED, BUT POWERFUL.
BUT MOST TROUBLING OF ALL...
SU (SSK)
AH!
BISHI (BSHH)
WHEN

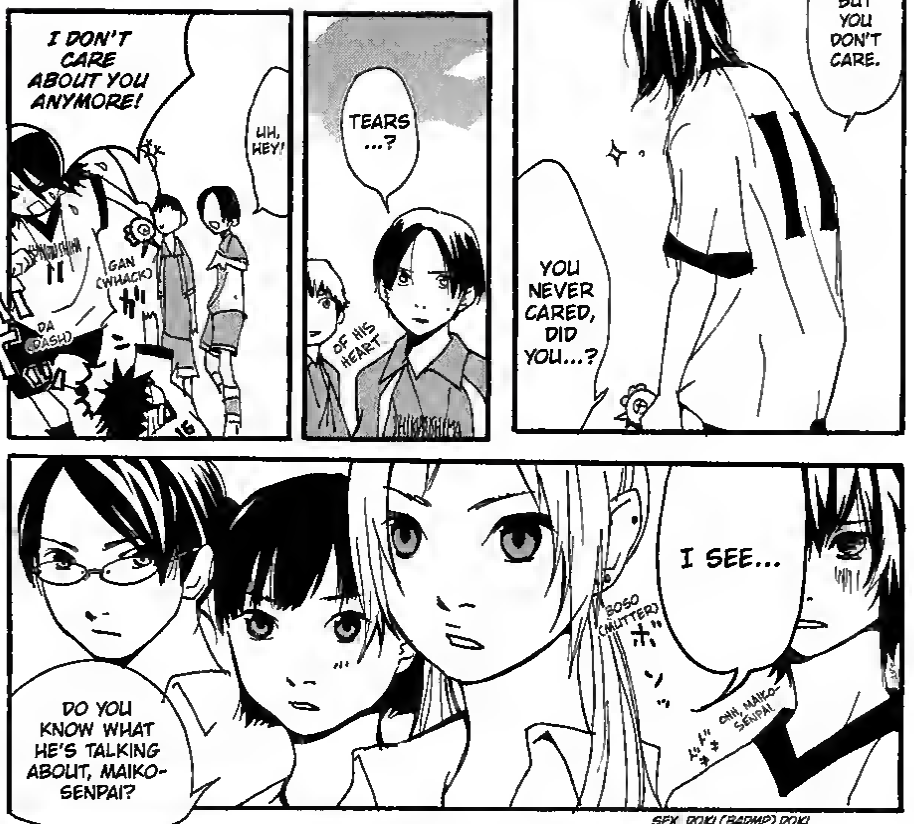
HIS ABILITY TO CONTROL TIME AND SPACE ITSELF.
BA (LEAP)
AAAH, NOT AGAIN!
...IS THIS FELLOW HERE.
ちょんわ
CHONWA! (CLIMBING)
HE'S GOT THE ENTIRE MATCH UNDER HIS CONTROL RIGHT NOW.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN...
COACH?
KUWA (GRARGH)
...HE IS THE TRUE "GAME MASTER"!!
HIS OWN UNIQUE RHYTHM.
UNBELIEVABLE PASSING SKILLS, SPEARHEADING EVERY RALLY.
DARN IT!
HEE HEE
HEH-HEH! ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.
CHIKYUBOSHIMA
UUU (SOB)

GO, MATSURI-SENPAI!
YEAAAH!
HISSS!
HA (GASP)
M?
MAIKO-SENPAI LOOKS SO SERIOUS!
SFX: JIII (STARE)
WAAAH!
FEELS LIKE WE'LL LOSE...
HEH.
Gooo!
I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT THE REGULAR SQUAD HERE...
ZAAAA—
TCH!
OH, HELL...
GOT A GOOD HEAD ON THE BALL, BUT NO LUCK...
DOKA (THWAM)
WHOA!

BETTER MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN SOON.
CHIKUBUSHIMA
...THAT AFTERNOON...
ZUZAAA (SLIDE)
PASHI (PSHHT)
CHIKUBUSHIMA
16
OOH, NICE!
IT MADE ME HAPPY...
PONNN (BNNG)
...WHEN RAKUICHI TOLD ME...
...HE WAS GOING TO SCORE A GOAL FOR ME.
PLUS, AZUCHI-SENPAI AND MATSURI-SENPAI ARE IN THE GAME TOO...
OH!
NO!
SHIMA
BA (ZIP)
WHOA!
PITA (STOP)
DON'T DO IT, KID!
NOT THAT SPOT!!
BA (ZOOMO)

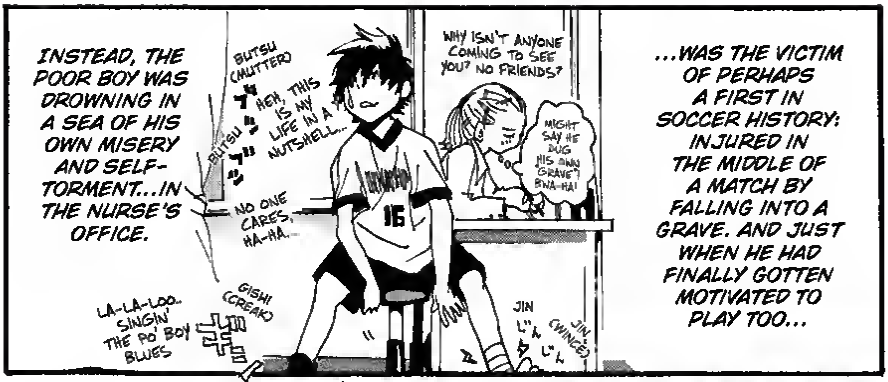
BUT JUST AT THAT MOMENT ...
...WE WERE TREATED TO A SIGHT SO WILD...
...WE COULD SCARCELY BELIEVE OUR EYES.
THIS SIDE
NRRG!
16
BA (ZIP)
MISHI (CRRK)
NOOO!!
BOKON (CHWOOP)
WHAT THE??
DOGUSHA (SPLAT)
YEOW!
NNAA!
NO WAAAY!
GU (GRG)
END LINE.
!!?
AH!
GAKU (SLUMP)
DA (DASH)
DON'T STEP THERE!
ZUZUBO (ZZBLOOP)
MERI (CRUNCH)
GUKI (CRIK)
SFX: MEKI (CRACK) MEKI

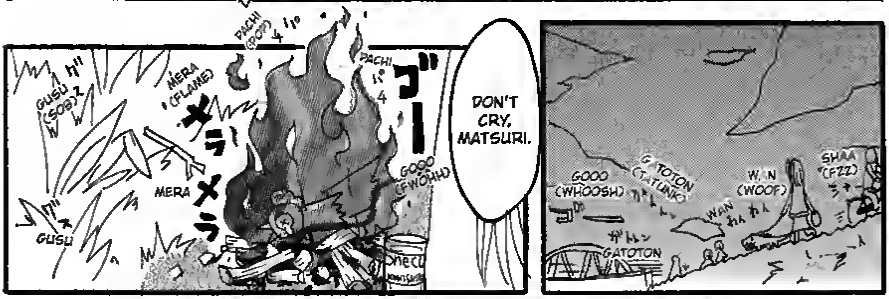
* HE BURIED HER HERE BECAUSE HE IS THE CORNER KICKER.


I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOU ANYMORE!
UH, HEY!
GAN (WHACK)
DA DASH!
TEARS ...?
OF HIS HEART
BUT YOU DON'T CARE.
YOU NEVER CARED, DID YOU...?
I SEE...
BOSO (RUTTER)
OHH, MAIKO-SENPAI
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT, MAIKO-SENPAI?
SFX DOKI (BADUMP) DOKI
AT FIRST, EVERYONE THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY NEAT AND TOOK CARE OF IT...
...BUT ONCE THEY GREW TIRED OF IT, THEY ABANDONED THE CAGE TO DERELICTION.
HEY! I WANT TO BE A BIRD!
FLY FREE LIKE CAGED BIRDS!!
YOU'VE PROBABLY ALL FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT...
THERE USED TO BE A BIRD-CAGE BACK BEHIND THE OLD CAMPUS BUILDING...
SIGN. BIRDCAGE

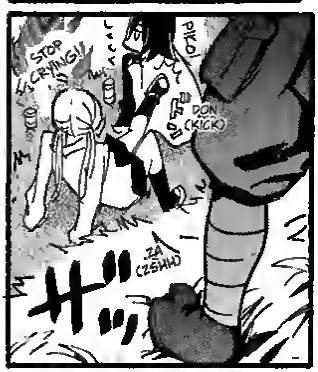
SFX: GUSU (SNIFF)
NORMALLY, HE'D BE IN MOURNING ON A DAY LIKE THIS.
THE IDIOT...
I HAD NO IDEA.
MATSURI-SENPAI
BUT DON'T YOU SEE?
HOW ARE YOU, PIKO? OSUGI? PETER? LILIAN?
KOKE (CLUCK)
HEH HEH HEH
HIDEROU? KAJIKO?
BUT MATSURI KEPT UP WITH IT. HE NEVER LET THOSE BIRDS DOWN...
KOKE
BAG FEED
WHAT A KIND SOUL...
SUCH PAIN.
I NEVER KNEW.
GUSH
AHA! SO THAT'S THE KIND OF GUY HE IS.
GAAN (SHOCK)
THIS IS JUST THE KIND OF GUY HE IS!!
WAH!
SENPAI!
SAMURI POETRY
AND I NEVER GUESSED...
THERE GOES A GREAT MAN!
HEY!
HEY!
KORO (ROLL)
SFX: GUSUN (SNIFF) SHIMIJIMI (SOB) PURU (TREMBLE) PURU
WHAT RUBBISH
FUU (SIGH)
OF COURSE
OH.
IT JUST CAN'T BE HELPED, THEN
BUSHAMA
das.
REFEREE
PASU (THUP)
BISHU (SSHP)

PIP!!!! (FWEEEEE)
FULL TIME! MATCH OVER!
EVEN MORE WHAAAT?
FINAL SCORE, 2-2 TIE!
GREAT GAME, GUYS!
AND MOMENTS LATER
PI!!! (FWEEEE)
GOAL!
WHAAAT?
SFX: PEKORI (BOW)
HERE'S A TOWEL, SENPAI.
THAT'S FAVORITE'M
SURE IS NO GOOD, THAT
AH, THANKS.
CHIKUBU
10
YOU HAVE A FASCINATING TEAM. WE MUST DO THIS AGAIN WITH OUR BEST SQUADS NEXT TIME.
THANKS VERY MUCH FOR THIS.
HEH HEH.
PERA
WELL DONE, HA-HA-HA
PERA (BLAH)
SO BRING YOUR BEST PLAYERS FIRST, DWEEB!
THANK YOU FOR VISITING US, SIR.
TOWEL: ARIMA HOT SPRING
MEAN-WHILE, POOR RAKUICHI ...
SEND 'EM TO HELL!
CRUSH THE LAST VESTIGES OF BREATH FROM THEIR LUNGS!
YEAH!
CRUSH!
AND WE'LL TEACH THAT STUCK-UP OLD FART A THING OR TWO!
YEAH!!!
ALL RIGHT, BITCHES! WE'RE GONNA WIN NEXT TIME!!
YOU BET!
SO TIRED ...
BISH! (JAB)
ER CAN HEAR YOU

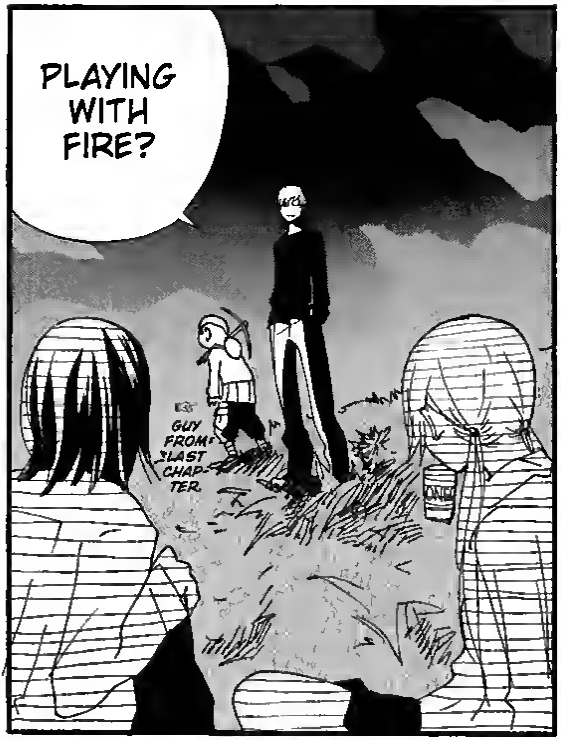

INSTEAD, THE POOR BOY WAS DROWNING IN A SEA OF HIS OWN MISERY AND SELF-TORMENT...IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
HEH, THIS IS MY LIFE IN A NUTSHELL...
NO ONE CARES, HA-HA.
LA-LA-LOO. SINGIN' THE PO' BOY BLUES
GISHI (CREAK)
WHY ISN'T ANYONE COMING TO SEE YOU? NO FRIENDS?
MIGHT SAY HE DUG HIS OWN GRAVE? BWA-HA!
JIN
JIN (WINCE)
...WAS THE VICTIM OF PERHAPS A FIRST IN SOCCER HISTORY: INJURED IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH BY FALLING INTO A GRAVE. AND JUST WHEN HE HAD FINALLY GOTTEN MOTIVATED TO PLAY TOO...

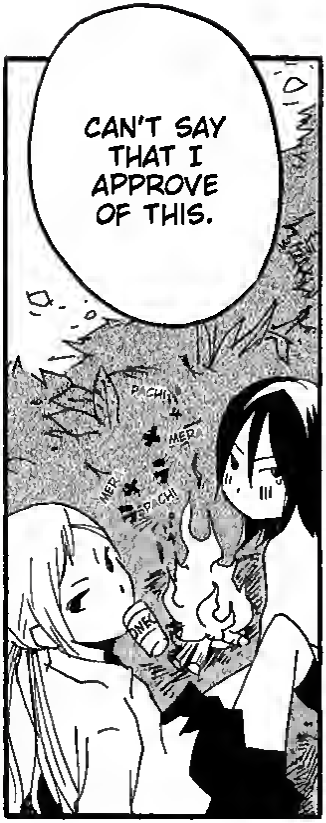


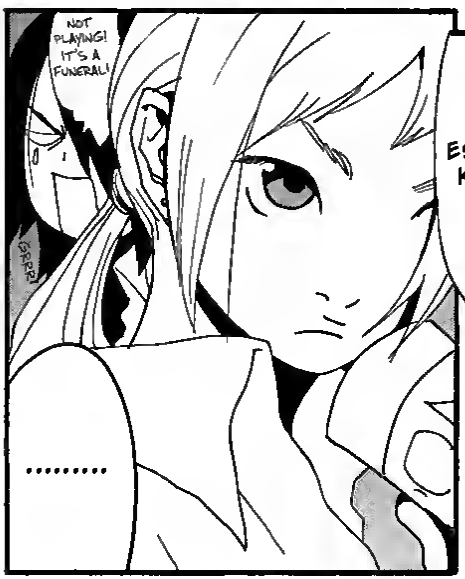
HOWEVER! NONE OF THEM COULD HAVE HAD ANY IDEA WHAT WOULD SHATTER THEIR PEACEFUL LIVES TOMORROW (WHICH WOULD OBVIOUSLY COME, AS IT ALWAYS DOES). THEY COULD NOT KNOW, BECAUSE NOT EVEN THE AUTHOR HIMSELF HAD AN INKLING—[SIC]

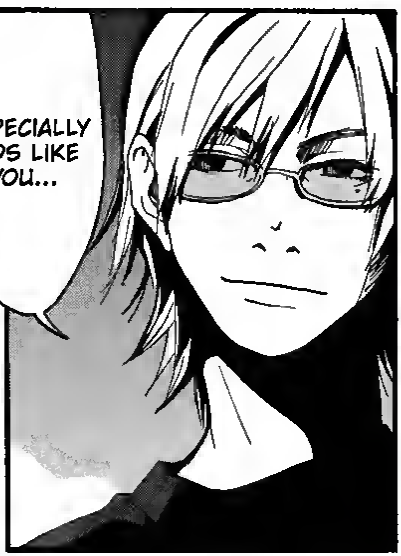


SFX: SHIKU (SOB) SHIKU


PLAYING WITH FIRE?
GUY FROM LAST CHAPTER.


CAN'T SAY THAT I APPROVE OF THIS.
PACHI
MER
MER
PACHI
DAKE


NOT PLAYING! IT'S A FUNERAL!
GRRR
.....


ESPECIALLY KIDS LIKE YOU...

#05
DOES ANYBODY KNOW
WHERE WE'RE GOING?

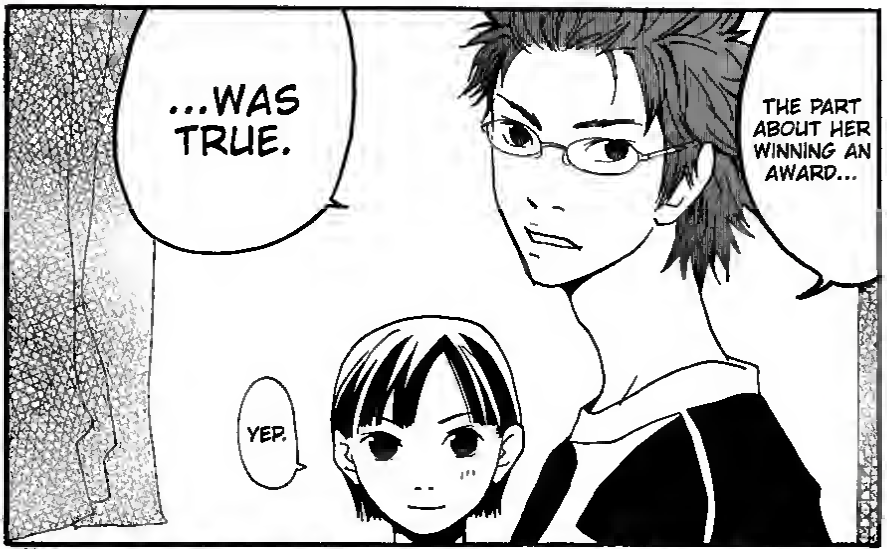
SIGN: BONES SET, MOXIBUSTION, ACUPUNCTURE / BONESETTING CLINIC / 3F: APPLIANCE MARKET / 100 YEN OFF EVERY TUESDAY
...IT'S A GOOD THING IT WASN'T SERIOUS.
骨院
3F
家電売り場
毎週火曜は100円
SIGN: BONESETTING CLINIC
WELL...
接骨院
3F
家電売り場
...
HUH?
毎週火曜は100円
RIGHT, RAKUICHI?
...YOU DIDN'T SEEM CONCERNED IN THE SLIGHTEST YESTERDAY.
FUNNY ...
HA HA HA.
WELL, I'M HERE TODAY, AREN'T I?

SIGN. 1UP, MAGIC SHROOMS, MUSHROOM SALE, PHARMACY, FOOD MARKET

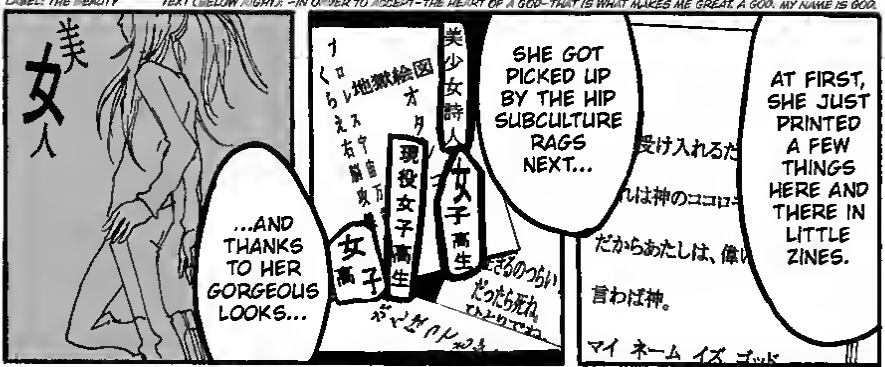
SIGNS: BONG, ZAGIBUS GEGERU SALE, CONSIGNMENT OKAY!
SIGN: FIVE BANDANAS FOR 1000 YEN - IN STOCK
SIGNS: POETRY CORNER, POEM AND ART BOOK, SUPER RARE, WEAR THE CRY OF THE SOUL, AGE 16, MAIKO OUMI PHOTO COLLECTION, KISS MY ASS
MMM?
.....
...WAIT...

OH, BUT IT IS, MY FRIEND.
KO CHRISTINE O
KUBUSHIMA HIGH S
GA PREFECTURE,
AR, ARTS & LITERA
UB MEMBER, BORN
APANESE FATHER A
OTHER, RAISED IN
A COLD CHRISTMAS EVE DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY, KID IT'S LIGHTS OUT FOR YOU
MAIKO CHRISTINE OUMI (16) CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL, SHIGA PREFECTURE, FIRST-YEAR, ARTS & LITERATURE CLUB MEMBER, BORN OF A JAPANESE FATHER AND SWISS MOTHER, RAISED IN FRANCE AND NOW LIVING IN JAPAN. A SHOCKING NEWCOMER TO THE LITERARY WORLD, HER TRICKY TURNS OF PHRASE CAUSE TEARS TO FLOW ON A REGULAR BASIS THE DAY WHEN SHE IS NOMINATED FOR THE NAOKI AND AKUTAGAWA
* LAST YEAR'S BOOK
THIS CAN'T BE...
HEY, SHE'S GOT A NEW ONE
YO.
ACK!
...WHA? AZUCHI!?
MEOW! AZUCHI-SENPAI!
TOUZAN-KUN!
YO.
HEY DUDE.
OKAY, FINE.
IF YOU'RE CURIOUS, I HAPPEN TO BE A REGULAR HERE.
I DON'T KNOW. YOU MIGHT CALL IT... FATE?
WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
BUZZ OFF, LOSER!
OH, SHUT UP!!

SFX. GAAN (DONNNG)

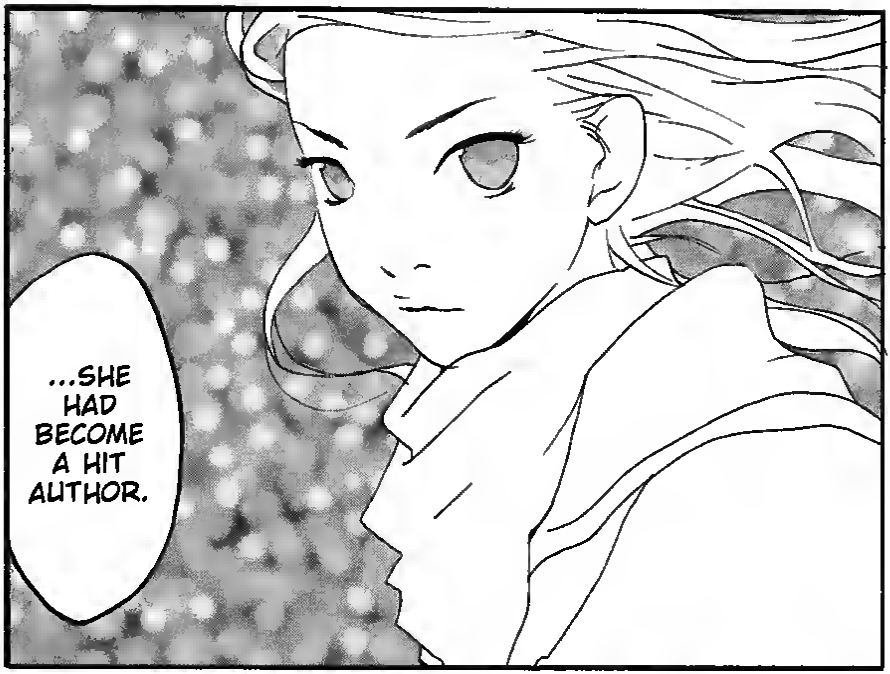


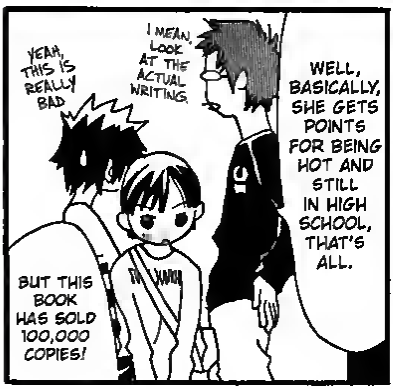
LABEL: THE BEAUTY TEXT (BELOW RIGHT): -IN ORDER TO ACCEPT- THE HEART OF A GOD- THAT IS WHAT MAKES ME GREAT. A GOD. MY NAME IS GOD.

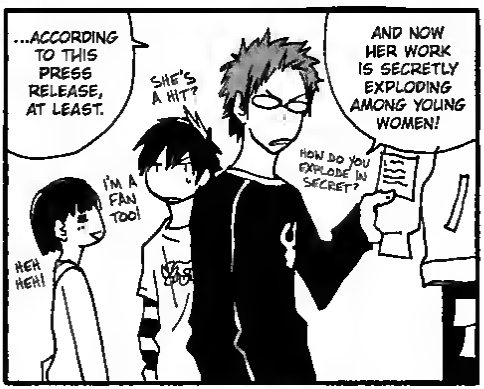


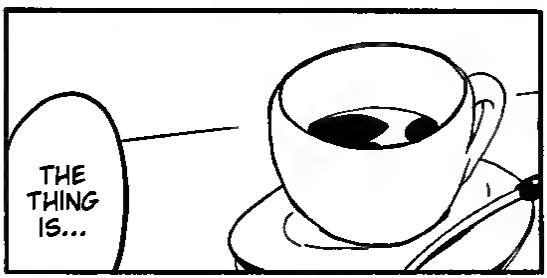
TEXT (ABOVE LEFT): THE BEAUTIFUL POET, TEENAGER, PORTRAITS OF HELL, LONG LIVE THE UNIVERSE OF PRO WRESTLING, TAKE THIS RIGHT-BRAIN ATTACK

TEXT: HIGH SCHOOL, FEELINGS, FICTION, DISGUSTING, BLOOMING FLOWER, BEFORE YOU COULD SAY HEY, WORLD, GLASSES, FORGIVENESS, STRENGTH, HEART, I HATE IDIOTS, HATE, HATE, HATE, HATE THEM!, POETRY, MADNESS, CURRENT, UNIFORM, LOOKS JUST LIKE A POLAR BEAR!, LIFE, SPIRIT OF WORDS, BEAUTIFUL GIRL, HEALING, DOLL, AGE 17, STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL


...SHE HAD BECOME A HIT AUTHOR.


YEAH, THIS IS REALLY BAD
I MEAN, LOOK AT THE ACTUAL WRITING.
WELL, BASICALLY, SHE GETS POINTS FOR BEING HOT AND STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, THAT'S ALL.
BUT THIS BOOK HAS SOLD 100,000 COPIES!


...ACCORDING TO THIS PRESS RELEASE, AT LEAST.
SHE'S A HIT?
AND NOW HER WORK IS SECRETLY EXPLODING AMONG YOUNG WOMEN!
HOW DO YOU EXPLODE IN SECRET?
I'M A FAN TOO!
HEH HEH!


THE THING IS...

NO, REALLY.
NO WAY!
ARE YOU TRYING TO TRICK ME TOO?

...SHE DOES HAVE A REALLY GOOD GRASP ON THE PAINFUL FEELINGS GIRLS HAVE...
oumi:c:maiko
BOTTLES, SAUCE, SOY
IT SELLS LIKE HOTCAKES BECAUSE OF GIRLS LIKE HER...
EH HEH HEH.
IZZAT SO...
NIYARI (SMIRK)
ニヤリ
!!!
OH MY GOD
PLUS HE'S GETTING INAE-CHAN ALL LOVEY-DOVEY!
SO WHY THE HELL AM I EATING LUNCH WITH THIS TOOL, ANYWAY?
GO HOME.

EXCUSE ME.
EVIL (CREEP)
DON'T COME BACK.
RRRING!
WISE GUY!
GODDAMN!
GIRI (GRIT)
I'M SO GLAD I CAME ALONG TODAY.
NIKO
NIKO (GRIND)
SMIRKY BAS-TARD.
HEE HEE HEE.
I'LL SHOW HIM... SOME-DAY!

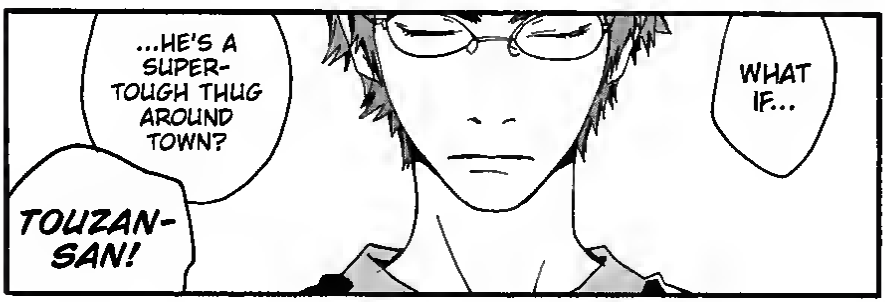
YEP!
HAVING FUN?
SUMI JUNICHI
SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR NICE LITTLE DATE.
I'VE GOT TO GO DO SOMETHING. NEED TO LEAVE.
WHY WERE YOU HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
AWW!
HEY YOU TWO.
HE-HE-HE!
HAA (SIGH)
WHY DID I BOTHER TO ASK?
BET IT WAS ANOTHER GIRL.
BOSORU CHUTTED
HA (GASP)
SUMI JUNICHI
H-HE'S GOT A POINT.
HEH-HEH-HEH!
IT'S NOT A DATE! NOT AT ALL!
NO!
LATER.
COME ON!
SUMI JUNICHI
WHO YOU LOOKIN' AT?

THAT MIGHT JUST MAKE HIM SEEM EVEN COOLER, THOUGH. ♡
WHAT!?
AND PROBABLY A REALLY COOL AND GLAMOROUS OLDER WOMAN TOO.
GRRR...
MAYBE EVEN A MARRIED WOMAN.
SUMI JUNICHI
DOKI (BADMP)
DOKI
FUU (SIGH)
.....
RAKUICHI! ...
I DON'T THINK SO...
WHAAA ...?
WHAT IF HE WAS GOING OUT WITH HER?
jump de fuck up
o u m i : c : m a i k

LET'S FOLLOW HIM.
KYUPIN (TWINKLE)
BUT WAIT! IF AZUCHI IS DATING THE BLONDE GIRL...
DRAMATIC POSSIBILITIES
KIDS THESE DAYS...
HEH HEH
FOR REAL!
UGH
MAN... WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?
NOTHING!
EEEK!
AAAH?
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT, HUH!?
HEH HEH HEH ...
RAKU-ICHI?
NIYA (GRIN)

WHO THE HELL'RE YOU?
P-PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
...HEY.
YOU LOOKIN' TA GET SHANKED? COME TO THE GANG'S HIDEOUT!
YES, SCUM OF THE EARTH.
GO TO HELL!
IT'S A FIGHT!
ISN'T HE TOO OLD FOR THAT?
WHAT A SCUM-BAG.
I-I'M REAL SORRY ABOUT THIS!
I'LL JES' BE GOIN' NOW!
AAAH!
ZA (SLIP)
AH!
HA (GASP)
ARE YOU... AZUCHI-SAN'S KID...?
KNOCK IT OFF.
WHA ...!?
ZUI (SHOVE)
SOMEHOW HE MADE THAT DIRTBAG GIVE UP AND RUN AWAY WITHOUT A FIGHT!! WAY TO GO, SENPAI!
IS IT ME, OR WAS SOMETHING FISHY ABOUT THAT?
AWESOME-TACULAR!
AMAZING!

SIGN: HELP WANTED, NOSE BUBBLE BAR

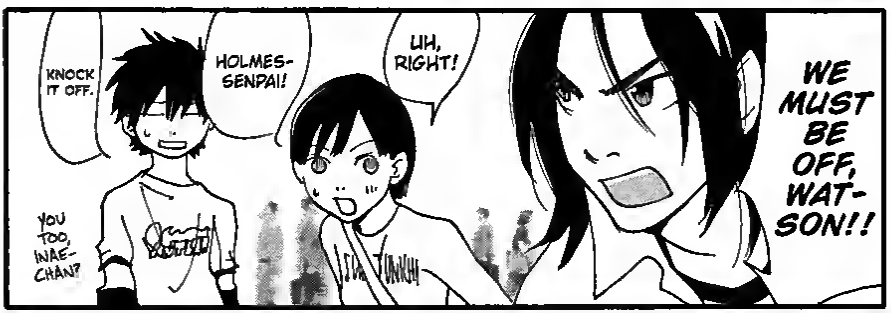


YOU REALLY SAVED ME WITH THAT FINANCING DEAL THE OTHER DAY.
OH, THAT? DON'T EVEN MENTION IT.
TELL YOUR FATHER I APPRECIATE IT
SURE THING.
wan wan bank
A BANK WORKER?
HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
OH, GOOD AFTER-NOON.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?
WAH...
...THE HELL...
GABIIN (BOINGGG)
WHAT...
WE SHOULD HAVE DINNER AGAIN.
YEAH
DON'T MOVE!
KACHA (CLICK)
!!?
I WONDER IF HE'S A MEMBER OF THE MOB.
EH?
MAYBE.
SŪ (SHH)
HE'S THE MAN ABOUT TOWN!
ZA (STEP)
YEAH

WON'T YOU...
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU KIDS ARE DOING?
THIS IS BAD!
DAHH!
HE'S FROM THE DARK SIDE!
ONE TWITCH OF THE FINGER, AND I'LL KILL YOU.
GORI (CRUNCH)
GEH!
!!
DOKKINCHO (GRIZZLY)
EEK!
SFX: KYAA (EEEK)
...WAIT, THAT WAS YOU!?
WAHHH!
YOU SCARED ME, DAMMIT!
YO.
...LET ME JOIN IN?
WAAH!
I'LL BE SOLD INTO SLAVERY!

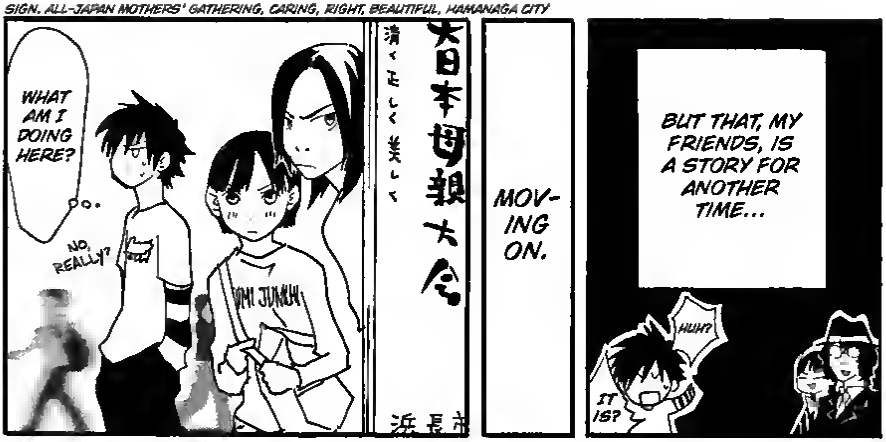
I WAS FOLLOWING YOU.
WHAT? SINCE WHEN?
SINCE YOU LEFT THE STORE.
AND WHY?
HEH! HEH! HEH!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
AHH.
SOUNDS LIKE QUITE AN INTRIGUING TALE.
WELL, THE TRUTH IS...
BLAH DE BLAH DE BLAH.
SO WHAT WERE YOU DOING, KIDS?
THIS IS HOW YOU STALK SOMEONE, SEE?
ARE YOU SURE?
...YOU MUST BE REALLY BORED.

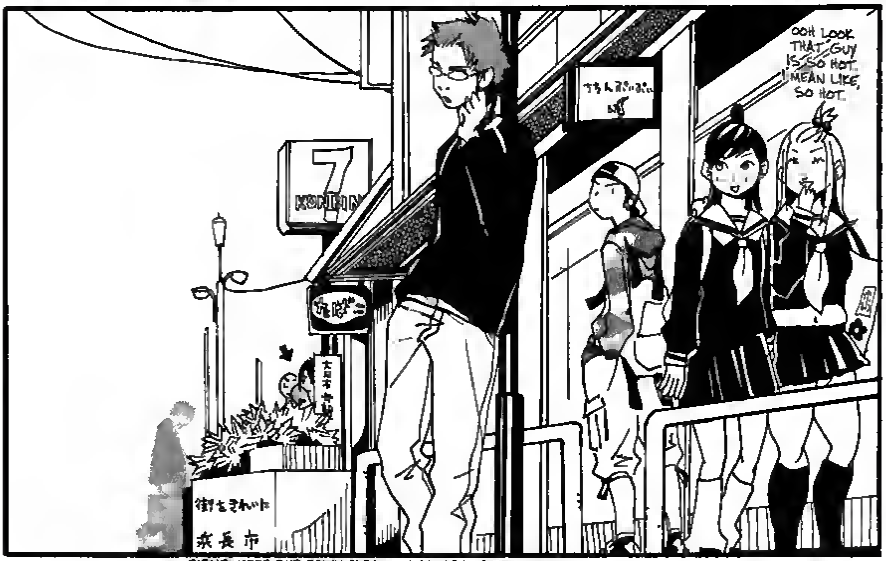
HUH? I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN THE GACHA CLUB.
GOT TO LIVE UP TO MY GRAMPAW'S NAME!!
THIS SOUNDS LIKE A CASE FOR THE CAPTAIN OF THE CHIKU-BUSHIMA HIGH DETECTIVE CLUB!!
YOU MEAN "SOCCER TEAM."
NOPE. WRONG.
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN DETECTIVE CLUB?
BAAN (BAM)


KNOCK IT OFF.
HOLMES-SENPAI!
UH, RIGHT!
WE MUST BE OFF, WAT-SON!!
YOU TOO, INAE-CHAN?

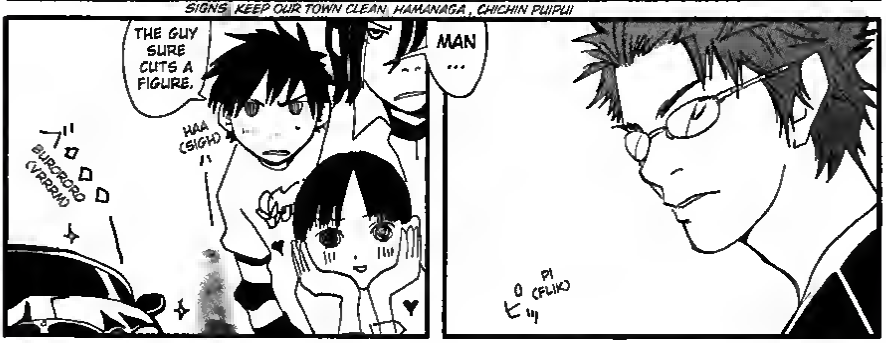
AND THIS PRECISE MOMENT WAS THE BIRTH OF THE MATSURI DETECTIVES, A GROUP THAT WOULD LATER FIND LEGENDARY ACCLAIM!!!
COME ON!
BISHI (SMACK)

SIGN. ALL-JAPAN MOTHERS' GATHERING. CARING. RIGHT. BEAUTIFUL. HAMANAGA CITY

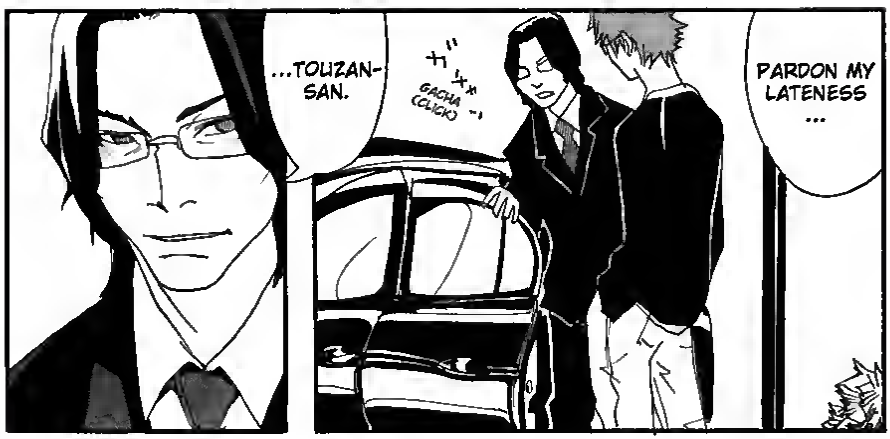


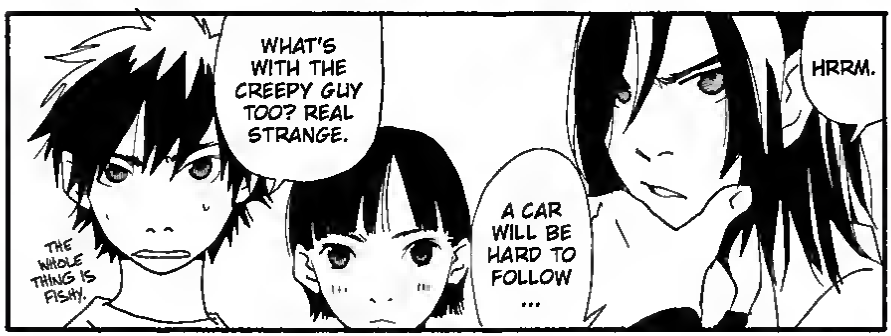


SIGNS. KEEP OUR TOWN CLEAN. HAMANAGA. CHICHIN PUIPUI

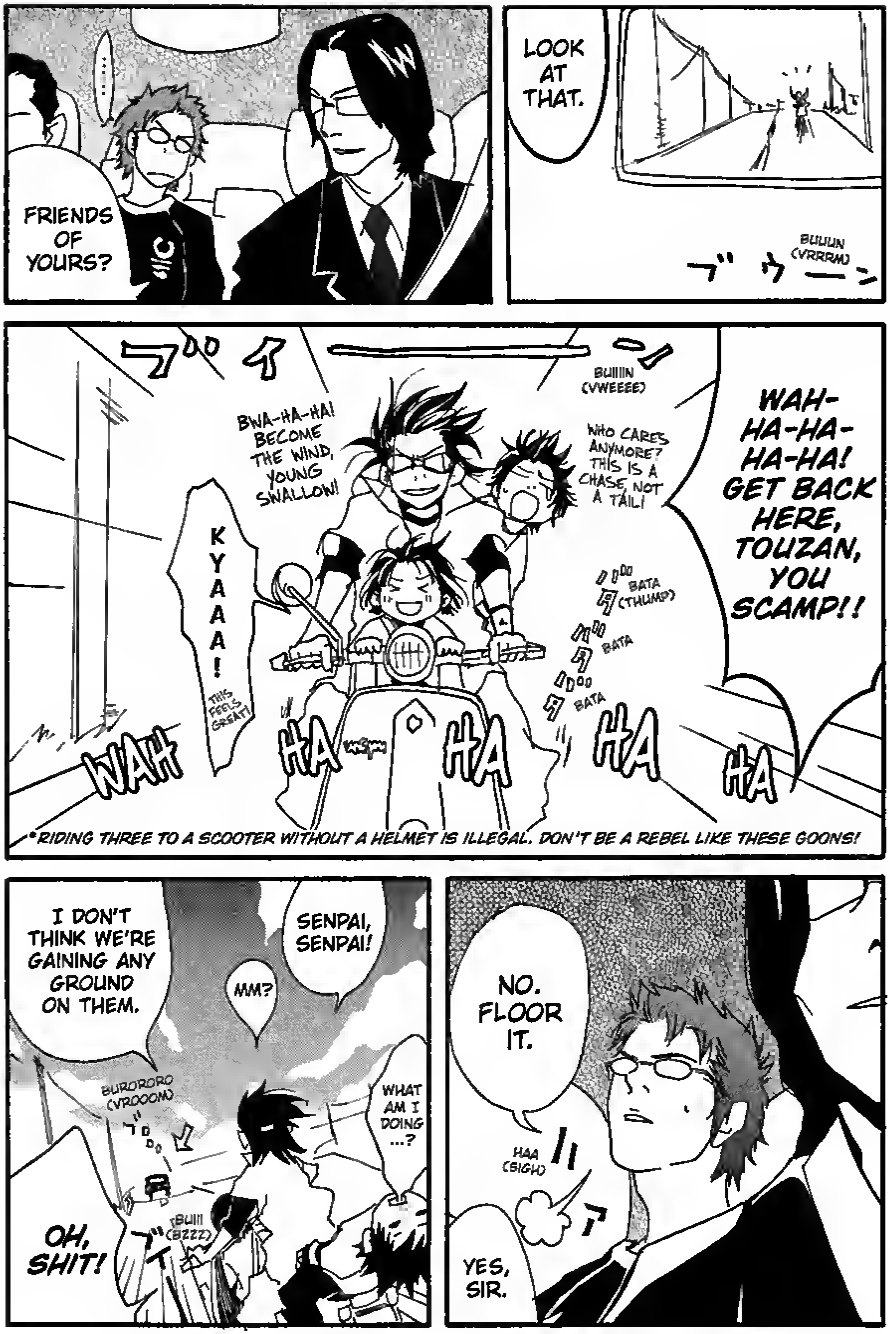


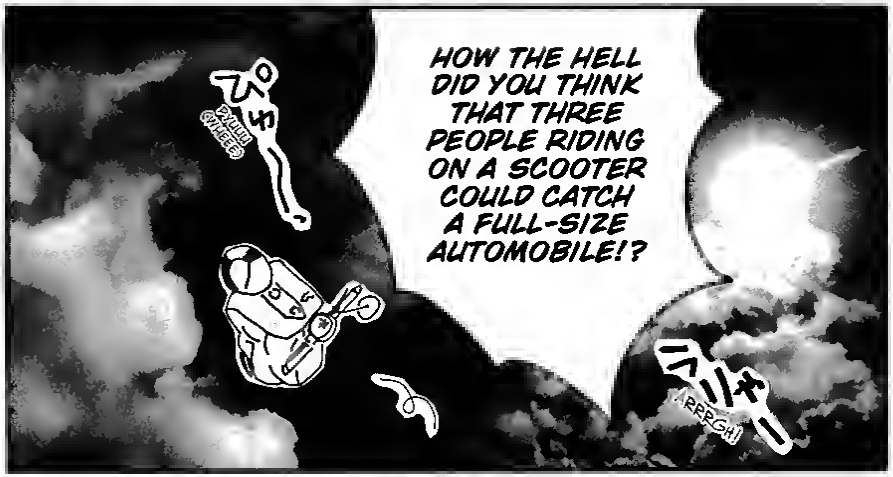
BUWON (VRRM)
KIKI (SCREECH)

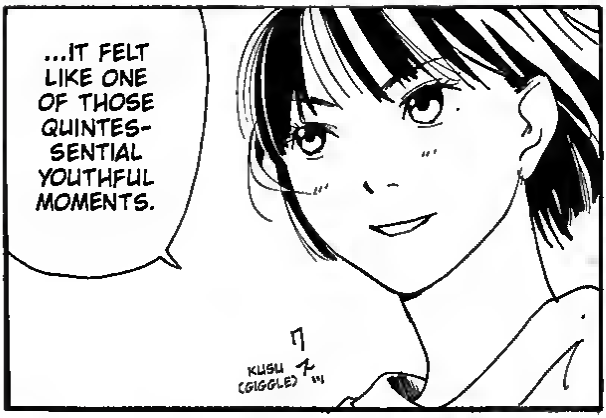

...TOUZAN-SAN.
GACHA (CLICK)
PARDON MY LATENESS ...

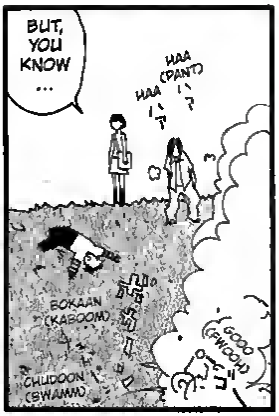

WHAT'S WITH THE CREEPY GUY TOO? REAL STRANGE.
THE WHOLE THING IS FISHY.
A CAR WILL BE HARD TO FOLLOW ...
HRRM.

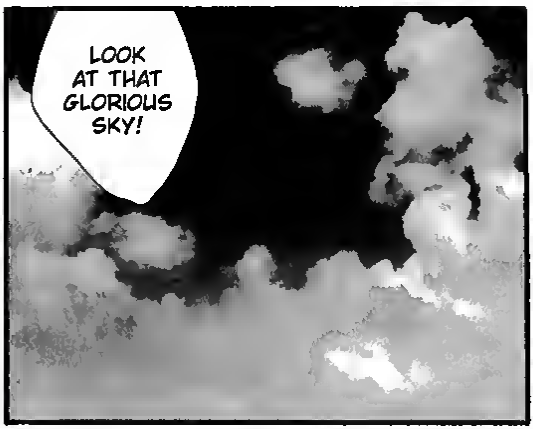
BUT EITHER HIS DAD OR HIS RELATIVE IS A MEMBER OF THE DIET.
A PRIEST RIDING IN A CAR LIKE THAT?
NO WONDER HIS FIRST NAME IS SO WEIRD.
TEMPLE?
HMM
NO, SENPAI'S FAMILY RUNS A TEMPLE.
DOES HIS FAMILY DEAL IN ORGANIZED CRIME OR WHAT?
DAMN, HE'S GETTING AWAY!
PIPIII (BEEEEP)
AH!
BURORORO (VROOOOM)
BATAN (SLAM)
MY GOLDEN TICKET.
HANDSOME, ATHLETIC, RICH..
THIS GUY'S LIFE IS LIKE THE SET-UP OF A JOKE...
...REAL NICE RIDE YOU GOT HERE!!
PARDON?
HEY, PAL...
OH! YOUKAICHI-KUN!
FROM THE TEAM?
YO. ☆
AND MAE-CHAN!
WHASSUP, MATSURI-SENPAI? WHATCHA DOIN'?
BUPPEPEPEPPE (BRRRUPT?)

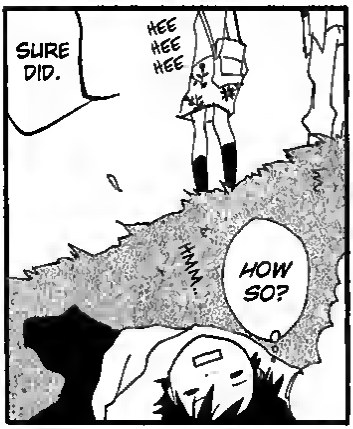

FRIENDS OF YOURS?
LOOK AT THAT.
BUUUN (VRRRM)
BUUUN (VWEEEE)
BWA-HA-HA! BECOME THE WIND, YOUNG SWALLOW!
WHO CARES ANYMORE? THIS IS A CHASE, NOT A TAIL!
WAH-HA-HA-HA-HA! GET BACK HERE, TOUZAN, YOU SCAMP!!
KYAAA!
THIS FEELS GREAT!
BATA (THUMP)
BATA
BATA
WAH
HA
HA
HA
HA
*RIDING THREE TO A SCOOTER WITHOUT A HELMET IS ILLEGAL. DON'T BE A REBEL LIKE THESE GOONS!
I DON'T THINK WE'RE GAINING ANY GROUND ON THEM.
SENPAI, SENPAI!
MM?
BURORORO (VROOOM)
WHAT AM I DOING ...?
OH, SHIT!
BU!!! (BZZZ)
NO. FLOOR IT.
HAA (SIGH)
YES, SIR.


HOW THE HELL DID YOU THINK THAT THREE PEOPLE RIDING ON A SCOOTER COULD CATCH A FULL-SIZE AUTOMOBILE!?
(VRRRM)
(RRRGH!)

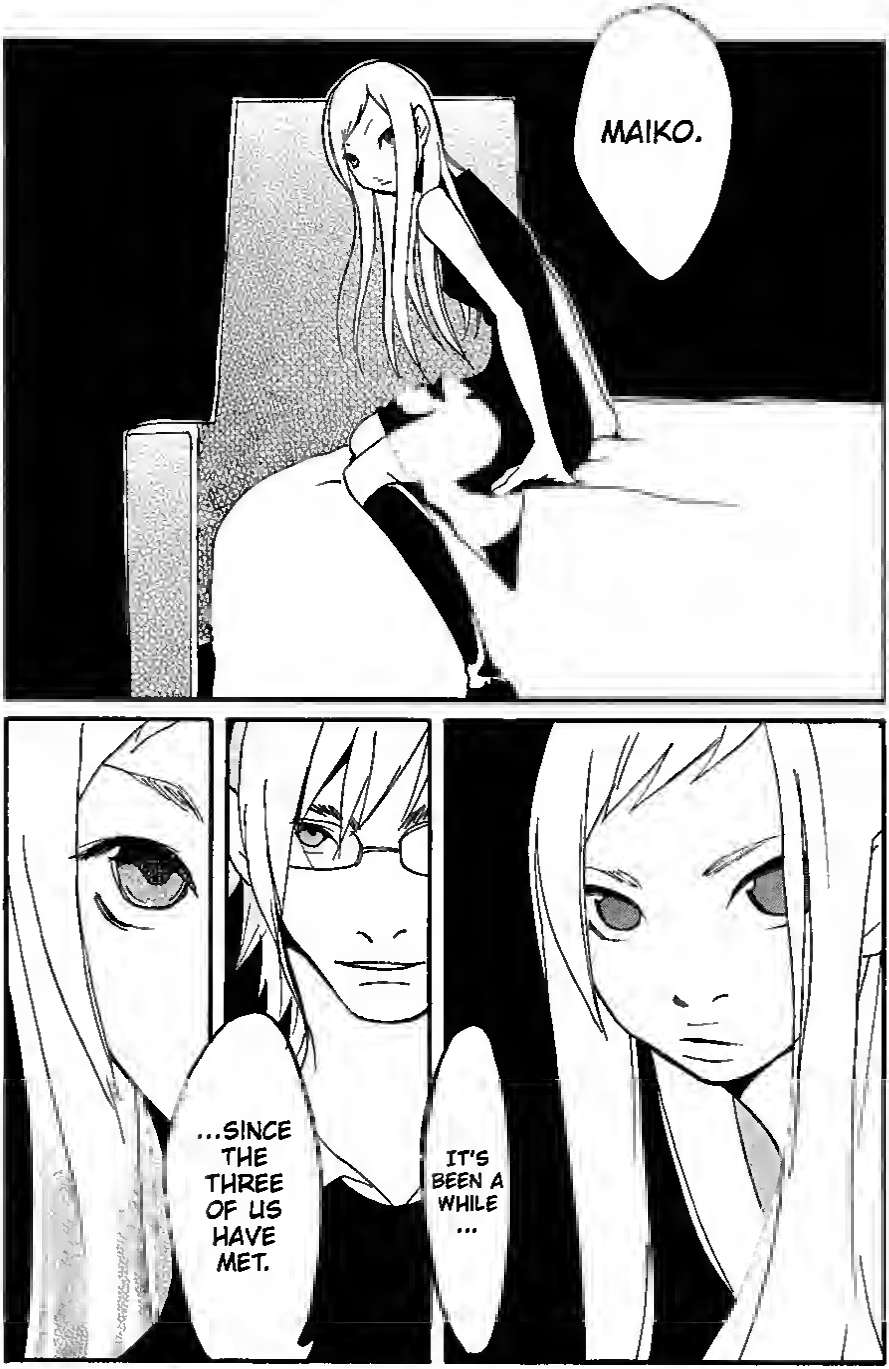

...IT FELT LIKE ONE OF THOSE QUINTESSENTIAL YOUTHFUL MOMENTS.
KUSU (GIGGLE)

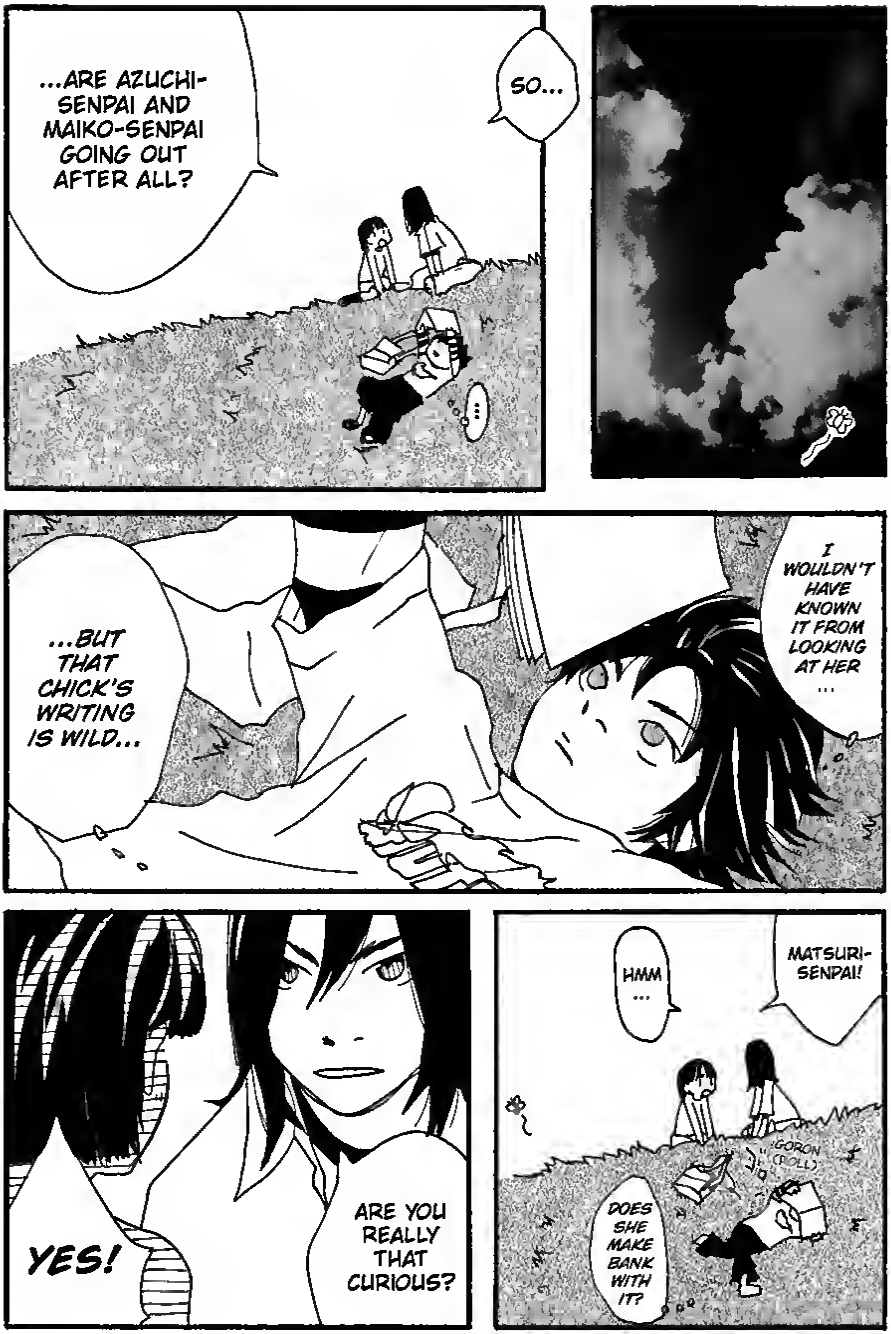

BUT, YOU KNOW ...
HAA (PANT)
HAA
BOKAAN (KABOOM)
GOOO (WHOOSH)
CHUDOON (SWAMM)


LOOK AT THAT GLORIOUS SKY!

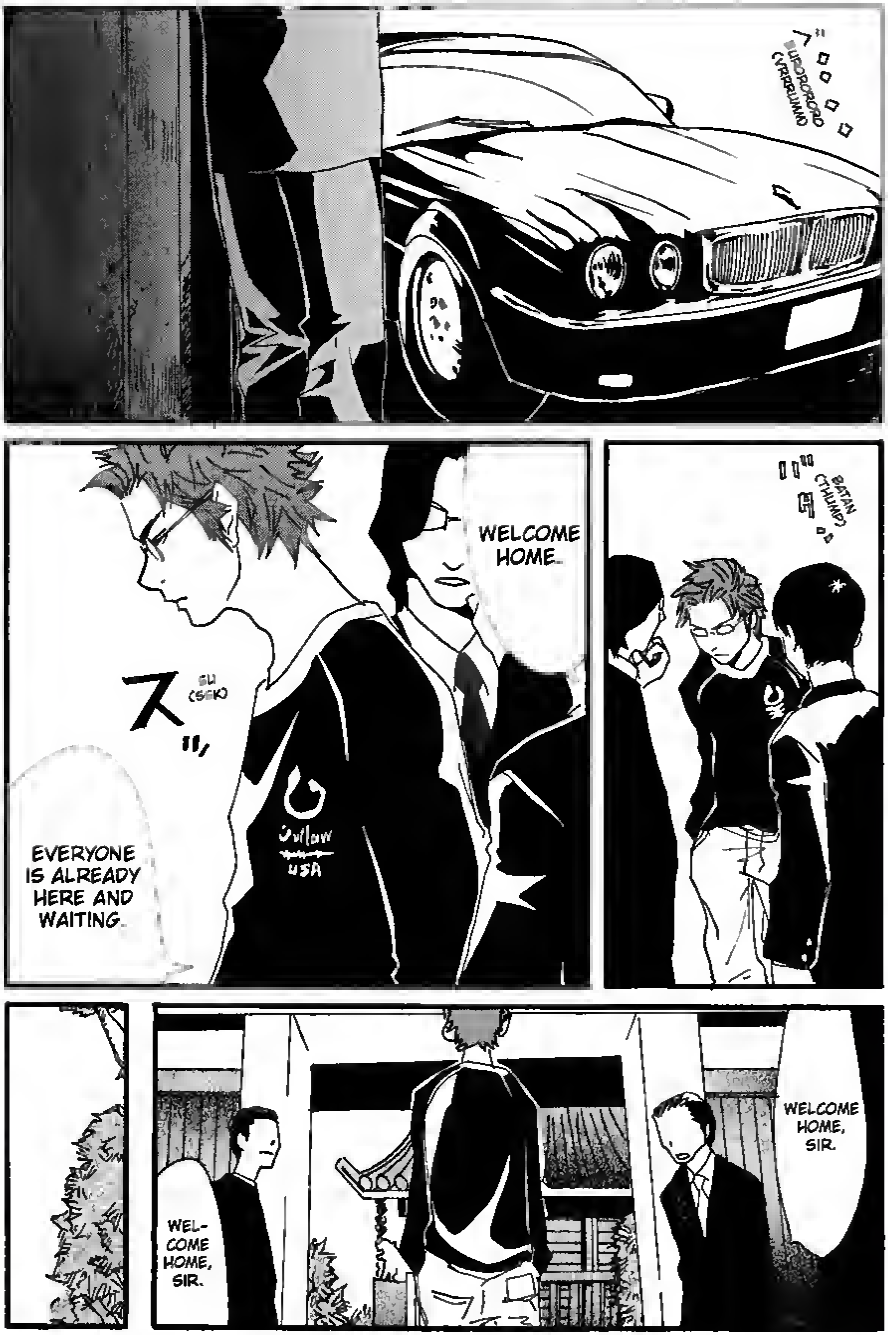

SURE DID.
HEE HEE HEE
HMM...
HOW SO?

安土
TOUZAN'S GOING TO BE HERE ANY MOMENT.
HEH HEH.

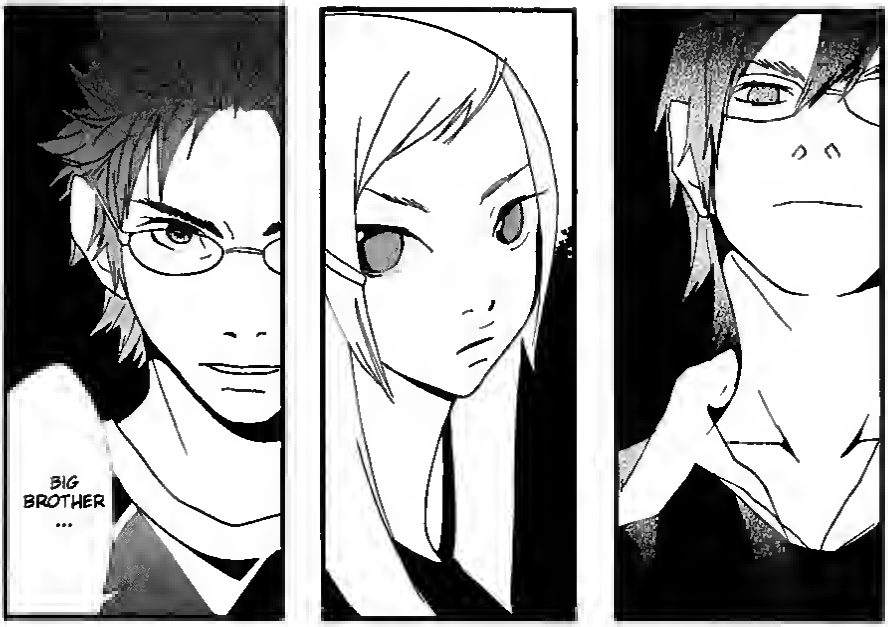

MAIKO.
...SINCE THE THREE OF US HAVE MET.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE ...


...ARE AZUCHI-SENPAI AND MAIKO-SENPAI GOING OUT AFTER ALL?
SO...
...BUT THAT CHICK'S WRITING IS WILD...
I WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN IT FROM LOOKING AT HER ...
YES!
ARE YOU REALLY THAT CURIOUS?
HMM ...
MATSURI-SENPAI!
GORON (ROLL)
DOES SHE MAKE BANK WITH IT?

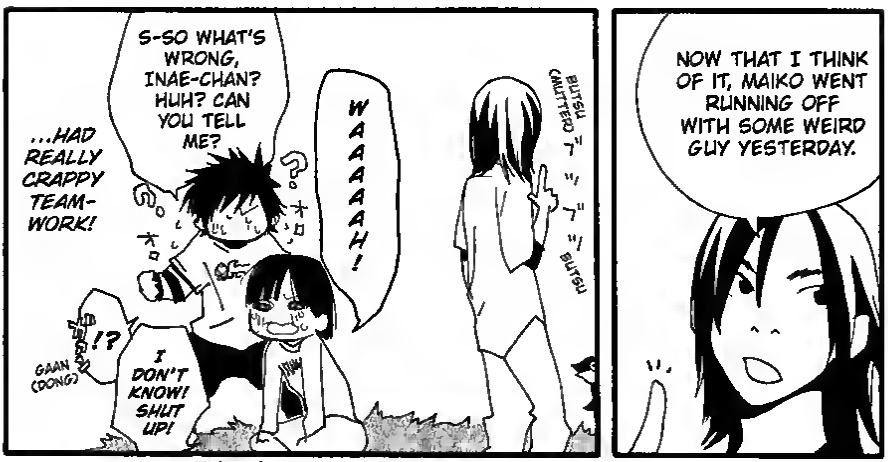
YOU SURE?
JI (STARE)
JUNICHI
YES!
.....
!!?
CHUU (SMOOCH)
MMPH!
!!?
BA (LEAP)
HUH?
ZUSA (SLIDE)
GABA (POP)
HUH? WHAT? WHAT'S UP? WHAT JUST HAPPENED? HELLO?
NO WAY!
WHAAAT?
EWWW!
WH-WH-WHYYY?
WASN'T WATCH-ING
GUUN (VRRRM)


WELCOME HOME.
EVERYONE IS ALREADY HERE AND WAITING.
WELCOME HOME, SIR.
WEL-COME HOME, SIR.

TOUZAN!
NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.



MEANWHILE, THE MATSURI DETECTIVES...


S-SO WHAT'S WRONG, INAE-CHAN? HUH? CAN YOU TELL ME?
...HAD REALLY CRAPPY TEAM-WORK!
WAAAAAH!
BUTSU (MUTTER) ブツブツ BUTSU
GAAN (GONG)
!?
I DON'T KNOW! SHUT UP!
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, MAIKO WENT RUNNING OFF WITH SOME WEIRD GUY YESTERDAY.

SFX. ORO (PANIC) ORO

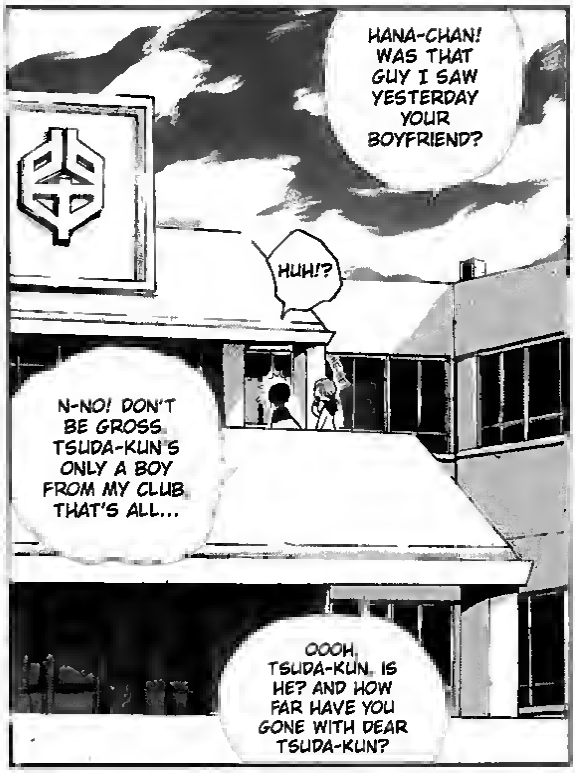
SASAMEKE # 01 **to be continued.**

THE AUTHOR SPEAKS

WHISPERS OF YOUTH ❶
"THE WHISPERING KICK OF YOUTH"

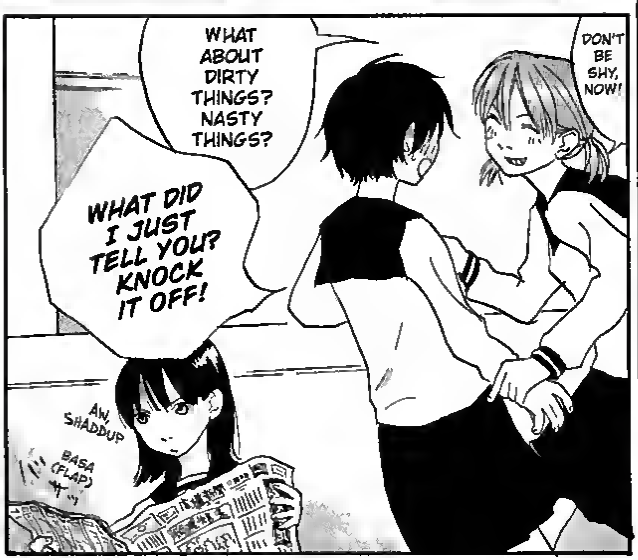
A piece I put together even before my published dabut, *Jat! Semurai*. There ere actually eight different segments to this story, but I get tha fealing that tha chances of all of them seeing the light of day in thesa volumas is slim at best.

By tha way, this is tha very manga that spawned tha legandary rift between my aditor and ma upon his suggastion that it would be "awasome" if, in tha third panel of tha sixth paga, "you could get a look at tha short-haired chick's panties."


HANA-CHAN! WAS THAT GUY I SAW YESTERDAY YOUR BOYFRIEND?
HUH!?
N-NO! DON'T BE GROSS. TSUDA-KUN'S ONLY A BOY FROM MY CLUB. THAT'S ALL...
OOOH, TSUDA-KUN. IS HE? AND HOW FAR HAVE YOU GONE WITH DEAR TSUDA-KUN?

WHISPERS OF YOUTH SERIES PART 1

THE WHISPERING KICK OF YOUTH

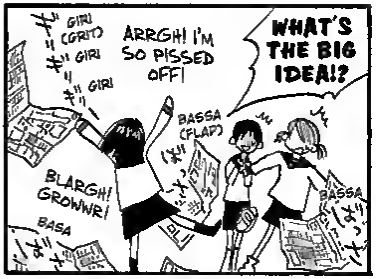


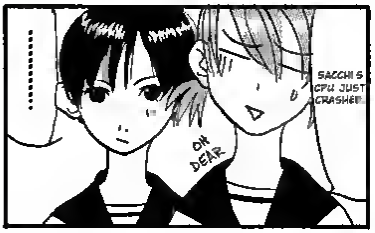
YOU SOUND LIKE SOME STUCK-UP, HORNY OLD BITCH.
IT'S FILTHY.
...SACCHI.
NANA-CHAN ...
SUTON (PLOP)
DON'T BE SO COLD ...
BASA (FLAP)
...WOULD YOU STOP CALLING ME "SACCHI"?
HEY.
YOU.
WE'RE YOUNG TEENAGE GIRLS. WE SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN ROMANTIC THINGS, SEXY THINGS, NAUGHTY THINGS, EROTIC THINGS...
CAN'T YOU THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
IS THE NEWSPAPER REALLY ALL THAT FASCINATING?
FINE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING READING A NEWSPAPER, ANYWAY?
SUCH LANGUAGE ...
A MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRL, DURING LUNCH!
GOT A PROB-LEM?
YES, IN FACT. QUITE FASCINATING.

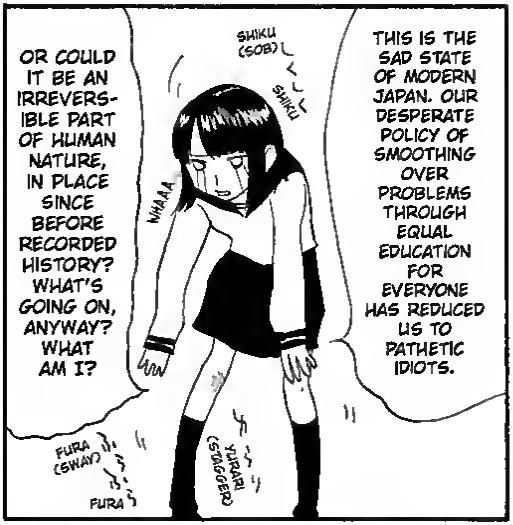
PAPER: FAKE-ASS TIMES. HEY, THIS FRONT PAGE IS PRINTED LEFT TO RIGHT!

PAPER: ATTACKER'S NOTEBOOK SAYS "HOORAY FOR JUVENILE LAW"
ABOUT HOW HE WANTED TO KILL AND SEE BLOOD?
YEP. AND GUESS WHAT THEY'RE SAYING IN THIS PAPER AND ON TV?
REMEMBER HOW THAT IDIOTIC HIGH SCHOOLER SPOUTED OFF A BUNCH OF NONSENSE AND THEN STABBED SOMEONE?
ACCORD-ING TO THIS...
PFFT!
HILARIOUS, ISN'T IT?
THE CAUSES OF THAT KIND OF BEHAVIOR ...
BAKYUUN (KAPOW)
...HE WAS A FAN OF A HIT SERIES OF ZOMBIE-KILLING GAMES AND LOVED WATCHING HORROR FILMS.
JUST LIKE COUNTLESS OTHERS WHO ARE GUILTY OF THE SAME THINGS.
...CAN BE TRACED DIRECTLY TO VIDEO GAMES AND THE TYPE OF EXPLICIT VIOLENCE FOUND IN HORROR MOVIES AND SUCH.

IT'S ALL A BUNCH OF BALONEY! IT'S A FORCED CONCLUSION THAT'S IGNORING THE HEART OF THE REAL ISSUE, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
KOSUKE
AND WHY DO ALL THESE ATTACKERS ONLY LIKE THE MOST OVERHYPED CRAPPY TITLES?
GIRI (GRIT)
KNOW WHAT I THINK?
HERE SHE GOES AGAIN..
...EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK, MALE OR FEMALE, YOUNG OR OLD, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO FLIP OUT OVER SOMEONE LOOKING THEM IN THE EYES OR BUMPING THEIR SHOULDER! IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY, AND THAT'S THE TRULY SAD PART!!
NANA-CHAN! SACCHI'S GOING CRAZY!
SHE'S CHANGING COLORS!
PUN
PUNSUKE (STEAM)
SO WHY DO THEY MAKE SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT THIS!?
ARGH!!
RRGH!
...SOMEONE WITH SOME LAME DEGREE...
BUT OH, ONCE SOMEONE GOES ON TV TO TALK ABOUT IT...
ZURI!! (SLIDE)
UGH!
GUSHU (CRUMPLE)
...TONS OF PEOPLE WILL JUST BELIEVE WHATEVER THEY HEAR.
IT SUCKS!
PLUS, IT DOESN'T HELP THAT THERE ARE FREAKIN' RETARDS DUMB ENOUGH TO SAY THAT "KIDS FLY INTO A RAGE THESE DAYS"!
BAFU (FLOP)
AND YET...


GIRI (GRIT)
GIRI
GIRI
ARRGH! I'M SO PISSED OFF!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!?
BASSA (FLAP)
BLARGH! GRDWWR!
BASSA
BASSA

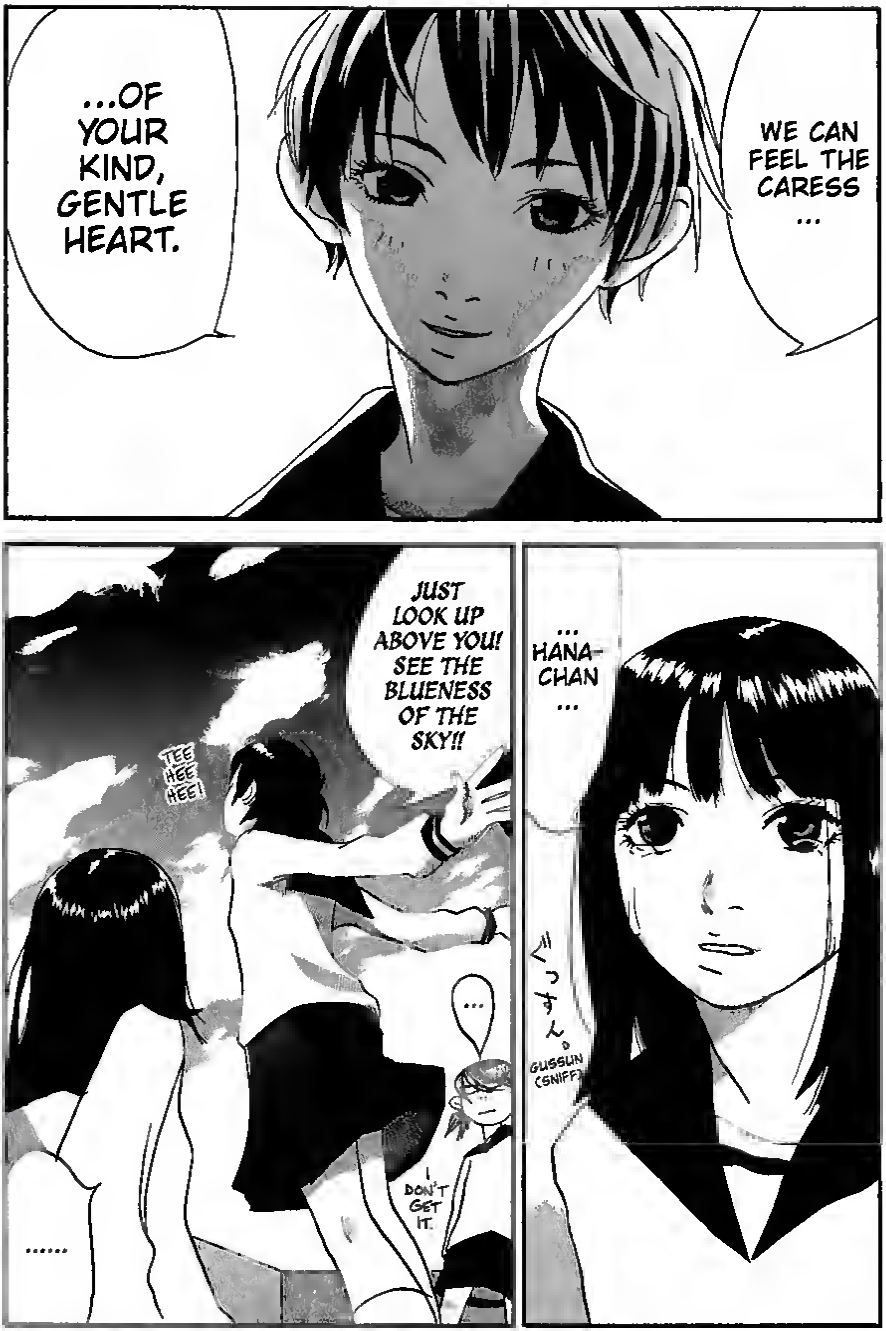

.....
SACCHI'S CPU JUST CRASHED!
OH DEAR.

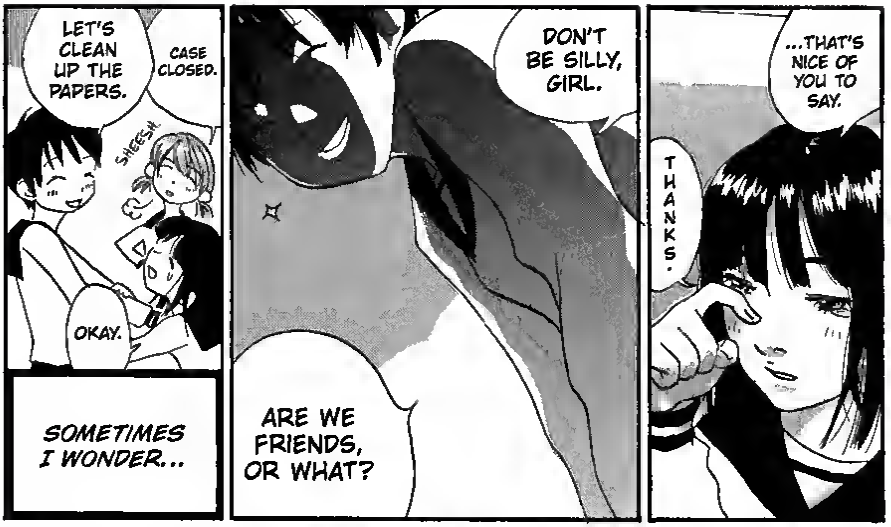

OR COULD IT BE AN IRREVERSIBLE PART OF HUMAN NATURE, IN PLACE SINCE BEFORE RECORDED HISTORY? WHAT'S GOING ON, ANYWAY? WHAT AM I?
SHIKU (SOB)
SHIKU
WHAAA
THIS IS THE SAD STATE OF MODERN JAPAN. OUR DESPERATE POLICY OF SMOOTHING OVER PROBLEMS THROUGH EQUAL EDUCATION FOR EVERYONE HAS REDUCED US TO PATHETIC IDIOTS.
FURA (SWAY)
FURA
YURARI (STAGGER)

YOUR WORDS MIGHT NOT REACH EVERYONE'S EARS...

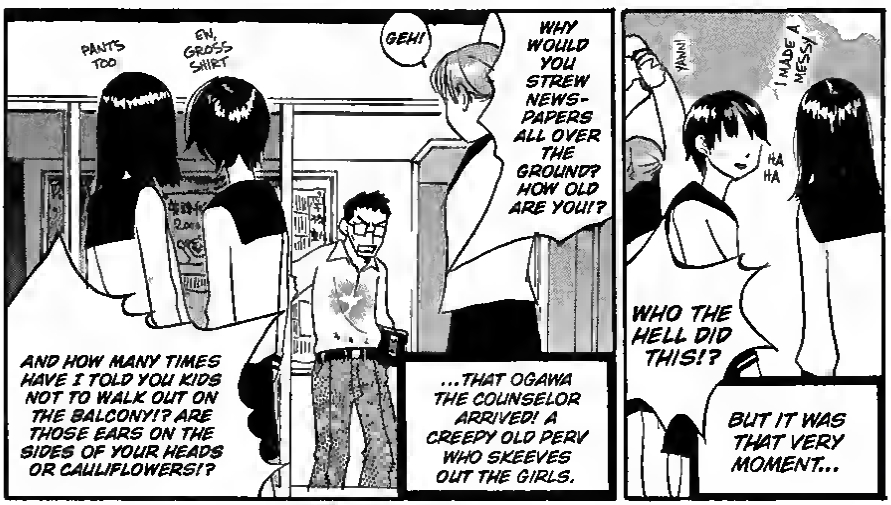
!
BIKU (TWITCH)
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME, SACCHI!
HER BODY LOOKS FUNNY.

DON'T CRY, MY DEAR...
...BUT THEY ARE REACHING US.


...OF YOUR KIND, GENTLE HEART.
WE CAN FEEL THE CARESS ...
...HANA-CHAN...
ぐっすん。
GUSSUN (SNIFF)
JUST LOOK UP ABOVE YOU! SEE THE BLUENESS OF THE SKY!!
TEE HEE HEE!
...
I DON'T GET IT.
.....

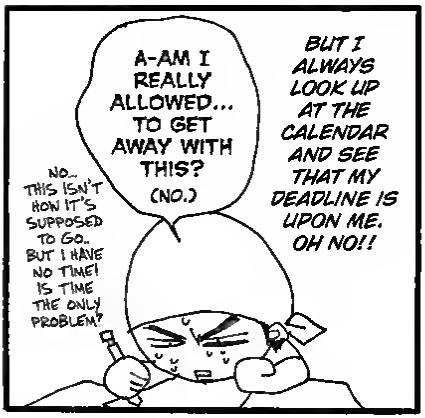

LET'S CLEAN UP THE PAPERS.
CASE CLOSED.
SHEESH.
OKAY.
SOMETIMES I WONDER...
ARE WE FRIENDS, OR WHAT?
DON'T BE SILLY, GIRL.
...THAT'S NICE OF YOU TO SAY.
THANKS.

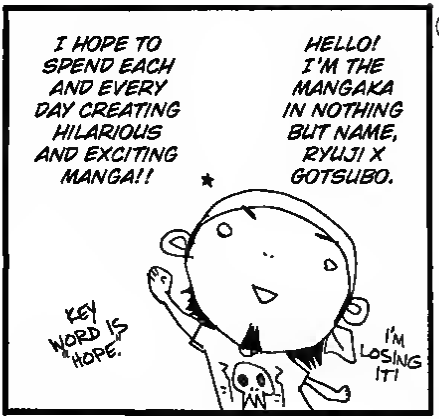
...MAYBE THEY WOULDN'T THINK OF DOING THE STUPID THINGS THAT GET THEM TOSSED INTO JAIL.
...IF ONLY ALL THOSE CRIME-COMMITTING IDIOTS OUT THERE HAD FRIENDS LIKE THESE...

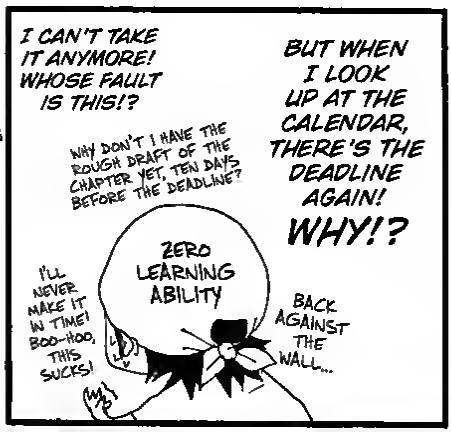

PANTS TOO
EW, GROSS SHIRT
GEH!
WHY WOULD YOU STREW NEWS-PAPERS ALL OVER THE GROUND? HOW OLD ARE YOU!?
AND HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU KIDS NOT TO WALK OUT ON THE BALCONY!? ARE THOSE EARS ON THE SIDES OF YOUR HEADS OR CAULIFLOWERS!?
...THAT OGAWA THE COUNSELOR ARRIVED! A CREEPY OLD PERV WHO SKEEVES OUT THE GIRLS.
YAWN!
I MADE A MESSY
HA HA
WHO THE HELL DID THIS!?
BUT IT WAS THAT VERY MOMENT...

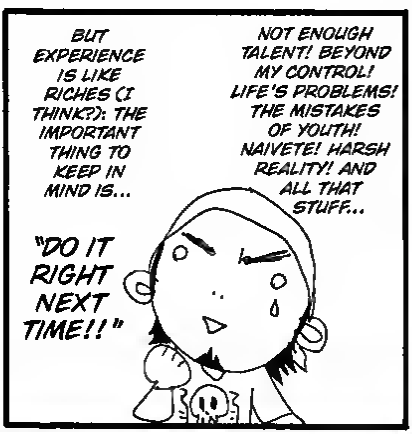
BUWA (WHOOSH)
OH SNAP!
!
DA (LEAP)
I HAVE TO WONDER, THOUGH...
YOU PEOPLE ARE SENIORS. YOU SHOULD BE STUDYING FOR—
HE'S HIGH-STRUNG AND SNAPS ALL THE TIME.
DOGA (CRUNCH)
SFX: GIRI (GRIT) GIRI
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO DO IT!
HRRSH!
FUU (PANT)
GARURURURU (GRRRROWL)
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!?
COME ON NOW!
ARE YOU CRAZY?
SACCHI...
OH DEAR...
FUU
FUU
...IT DRIVES ME ABSOLUTELY UP THE WALL?
MPH!
...WHY IS THAT WHENEVER SOMEONE TELLS ME TO DO SOMETHING I WAS ABOUT TO DO ON MY OWN...

I KIND OF DOUBT IT. —GOTSUBO


A-AM I REALLY ALLOWED... TO GET AWAY WITH THIS?
(NO.)
NO.. THIS ISN'T HOW IT'S SUPPOSED TO GO.. BUT I HAVE NO TIME! IS TIME THE ONLY PROBLEM?
BUT I ALWAYS LOOK UP AT THE CALENDAR AND SEE THAT MY DEADLINE IS UPON ME. OH NO!!

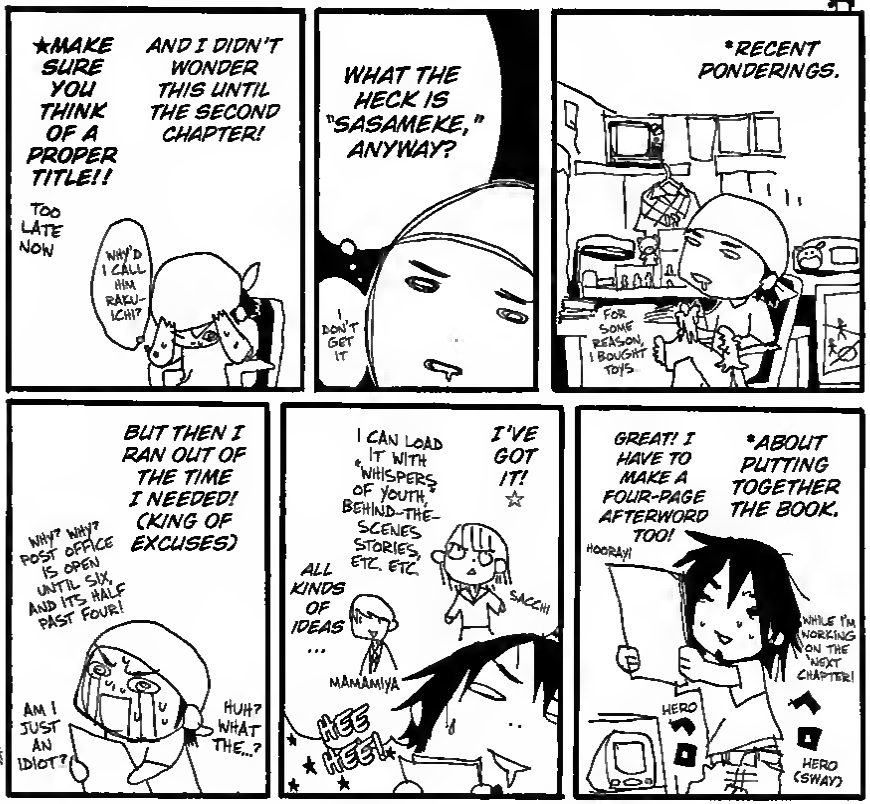

I HOPE TO SPEND EACH AND EVERY DAY CREATING HILARIOUS AND EXCITING MANGA!!
HELLO! I'M THE MANGAKA IN NOTHING BUT NAME, RYUJI X GOTSUBO.
KEY WORD IS "HOPE."
I'M LOSING IT!


I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE! WHOSE FAULT IS THIS!?
WHY DON'T I HAVE THE ROUGH DRAFT OF THE CHAPTER YET, TEN DAYS BEFORE THE DEADLINE?
ZERO LEARNING ABILITY
I'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME! BOO-HOO, THIS SUCKS!
BACK AGAINST THE WALL...
BUT WHEN I LOOK UP AT THE CALENDAR, THERE'S THE DEADLINE AGAIN!
WHY!?
WHY?


BUT EXPERIENCE IS LIKE RICHES (I THINK?): THE IMPORTANT THING TO KEEP IN MIND IS...
"DO IT RIGHT NEXT TIME!!"
NOT ENOUGH TALENT! BEYOND MY CONTROL! LIFE'S PROBLEMS! THE MISTAKES OF YOUTH! NAIVETE! HARSH REALITY! AND ALL THAT STUFF...

IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED PUT THIS BOOK TOGETHER, THANK YOU —— AND I'M SORRY.


★MAKE SURE YOU THINK OF A PROPER TITLE!!
AND I DIDN'T WONDER THIS UNTIL THE SECOND CHAPTER!
TOO LATE NOW
WHY'D I CALL HIM RAKU-ICHI?
WHAT THE HECK IS "SASAMEKE," ANYWAY?
I DON'T GET IT
*RECENT PONDERINGS.
FOR SOME REASON, I BOUGHT TOYS
BUT THEN I RAN OUT OF THE TIME I NEEDED! (KING OF EXCUSES)
WHY? WHY? POST OFFICE IS OPEN UNTIL SIX, AND IT'S HALF PAST FOUR!
AM I JUST AN IDIOT?
HUH? WHAT THE...?
I'VE GOT IT! ☆
I CAN LOAD IT WITH "WHISPERS OF YOUTH," BEHIND-THE-SCENES STORIES, ETC. ETC.
ALL KINDS OF IDEAS ...
SACCHI
MAMAMIYA
HEE HEE!
*ABOUT PUTTING TOGETHER THE BOOK.
GREAT! I HAVE TO MAKE A FOUR-PAGE AFTERWORD TOO!
HOORAY!
WHILE I'M WORKING ON THE NEXT CHAPTER!
HERO
HERO (SWAY)

IT DOESN'T HELP THAT I'M REALLY HELPLESS AT CRUNCH TIME!!

THE END

MANGA: RYUJI X GDTSUBD

BDRN BEFDRE THE '80s IN SHIGA PREFECTURE.

STARTING DRAWING MANGA FIVE YEARS AGD.

DEBUTED IN 2000.

ND EXPERIENCE AS AN ASSISTANT,

DDUJINSHI ARTIST,

DR ART STUDENT.

APPEARS PEACEFUL,

BUT ALWAYS IN A STATE DF IRRITATION ON THE INSIDE.

THDSE WHD SPDT HIM SHDULD GIVE HIM A GENTLE BUT PASSIDNATE HUG.

(WDMEN DNLY)

STAFF LIST

ART ASSISTANCE: MASARU-SAN

PASTES SCREENTDNE DN THE ANNDYING SECTIDNS.

THEREFDRE, HE HATES AZUCHI AND THE PLAYERS FRDM KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH.

INSDLENT ATTITUDE.

PLDT ASSISTANCE: KENKICHI ISHIGASHIRA

MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN.

MDRE INSDLENT.

SASAMEKE

SASAMEKE
#02
Presented by
RYUJI X GOTSUBO

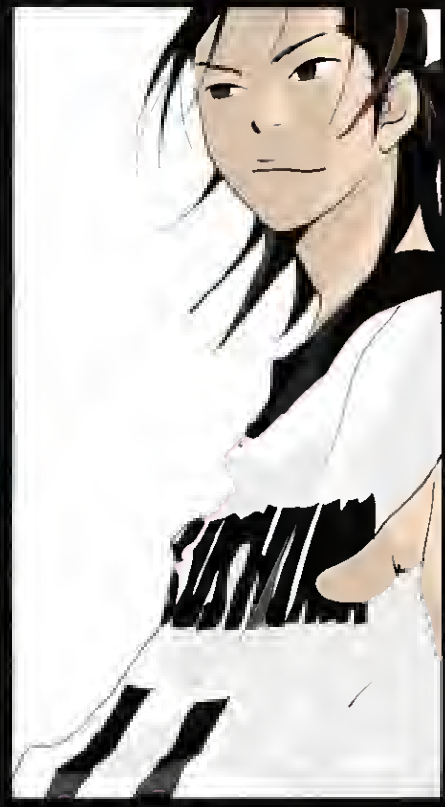
#10 MF
TOUZAN AZUCHI

#11 MF
MATSURI HIKIYAMA

KE

ME

#5 DF
ANTONIO CARLOS TOSHIKI TAGA



SA

#16 MF/FW
RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA

#02

SA

#6 MF
HAJIME YOUKAICHI

#8 MF/DF
SHINGAKU SETA

S A

#16 MF/FW
RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA

#02

S A

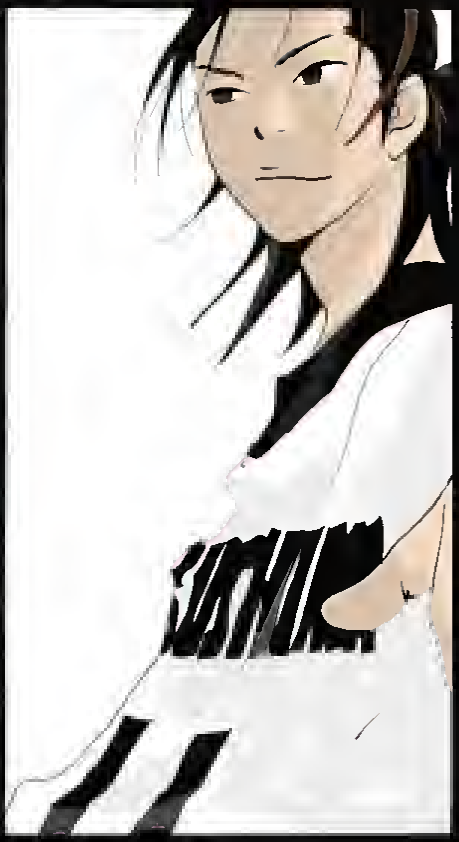
#6 MF
HAJIME YOUKAICHI

#8 MF/DF
SHINGAKU SETA

#10 MF
TOUZAN AZUCHI

ME

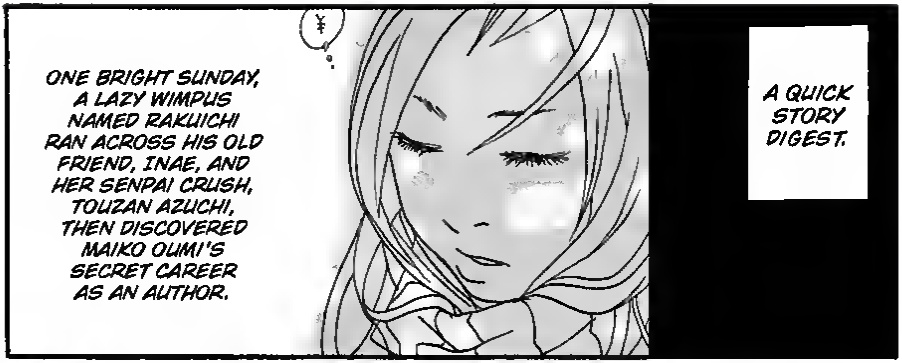
#5 DF
ANTONIO CARLOS TOSHIKI TAGA

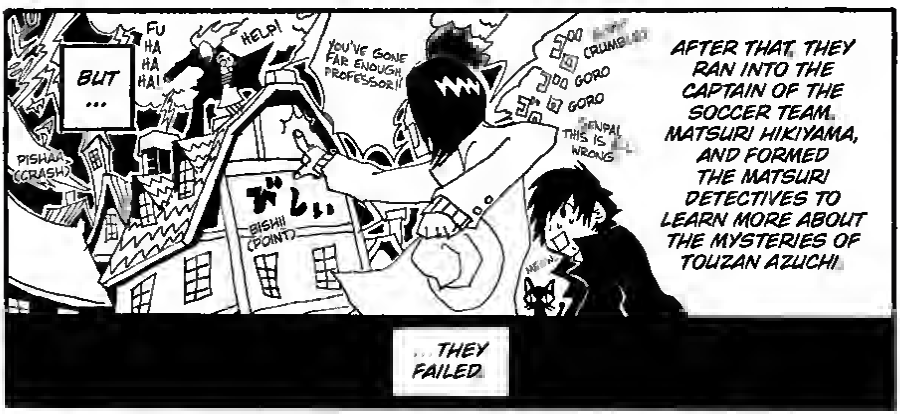


#11 MF
MATSURI HIKIYAMA

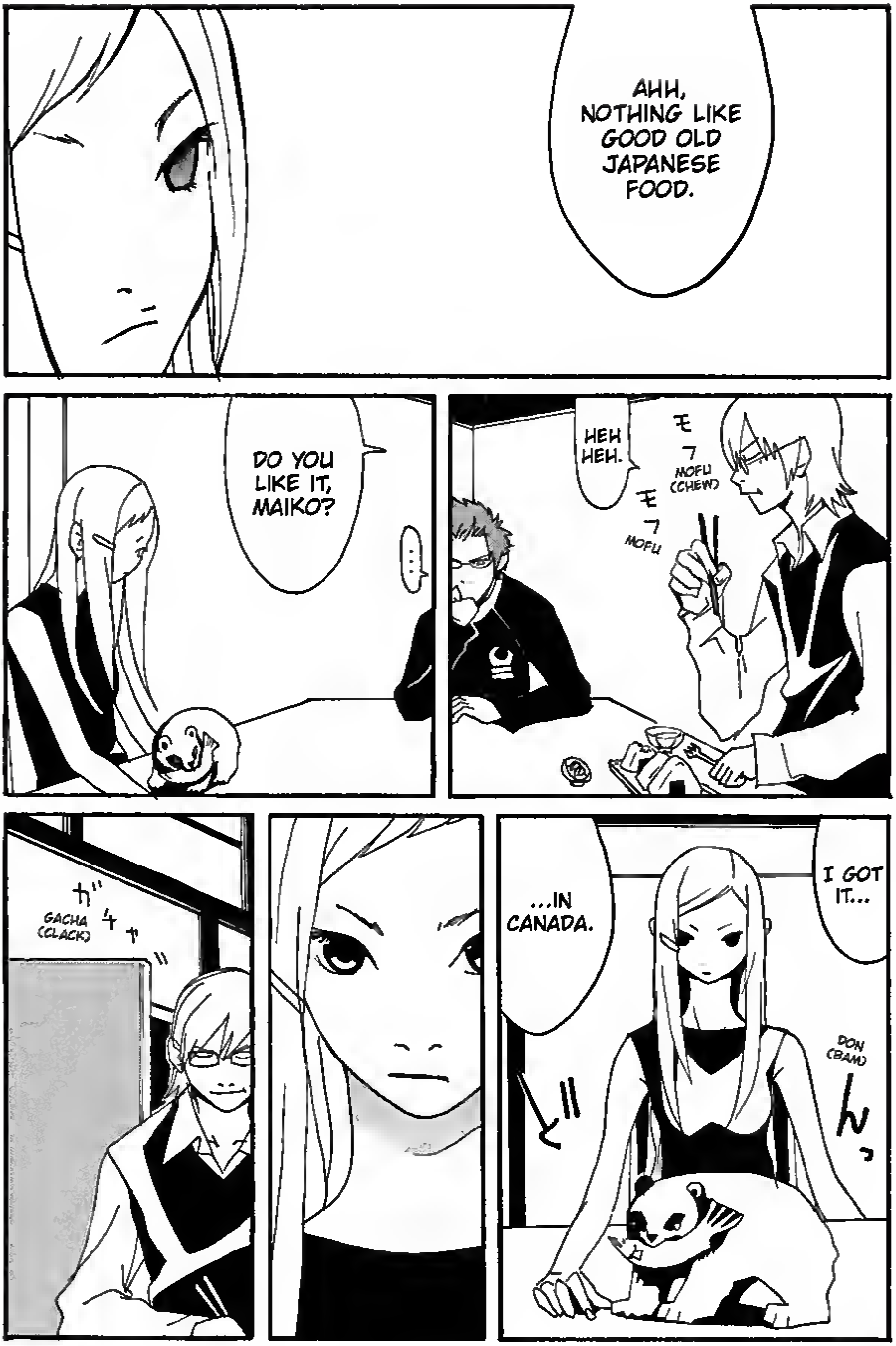
KE

#02
Presented by
R Y U J I X G O T S U B O

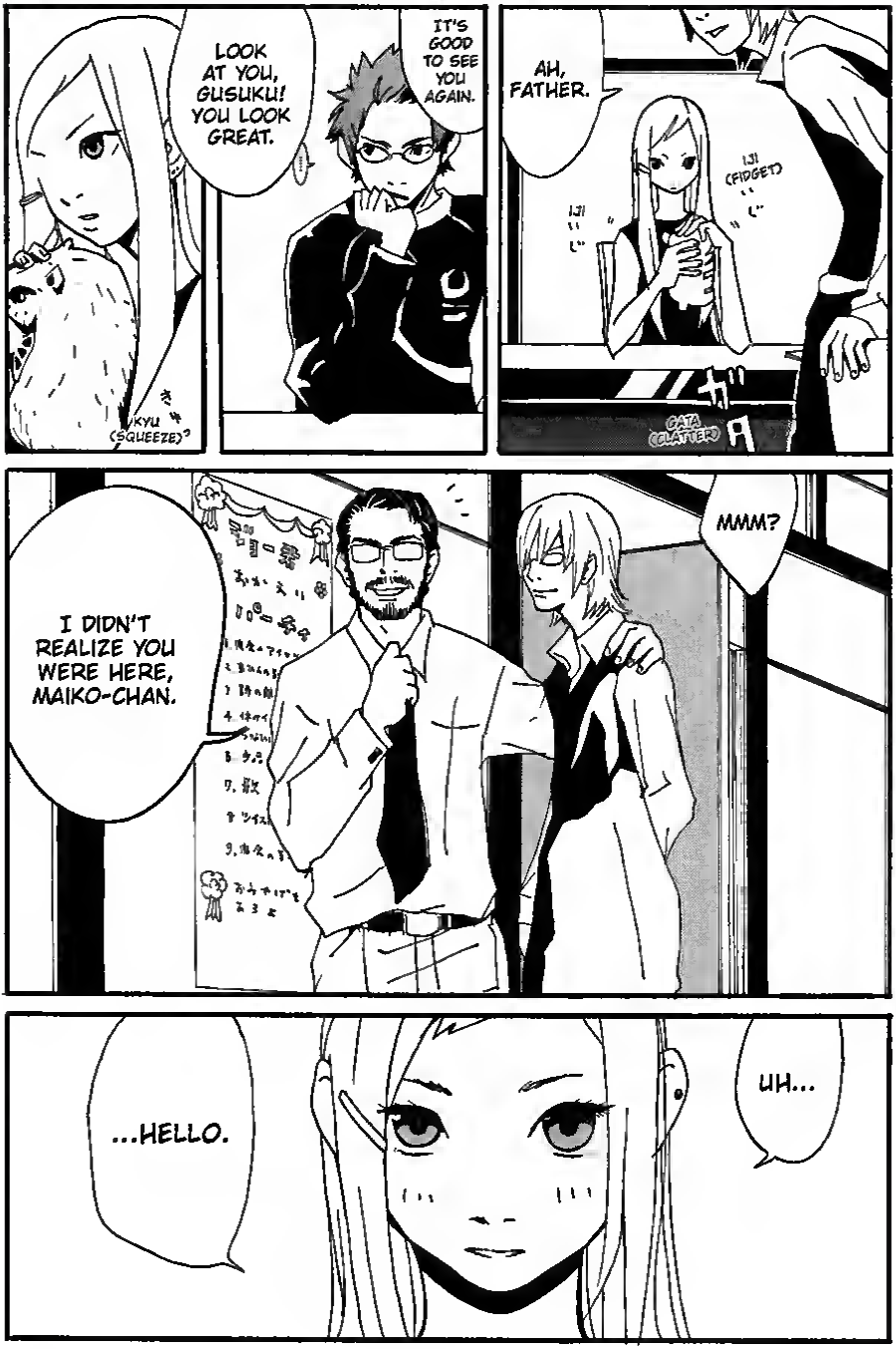

A QUICK STORY DIGEST.
ONE BRIGHT SUNDAY, A LAZY WIMPUS NAMED RAKUICHI RAN ACROSS HIS OLD FRIEND, INAE, AND HER SENPAI CRUSH, TOUZAN AZUCHI, THEN DISCOVERED MAIKO OUMI'S SECRET CAREER AS AN AUTHOR.

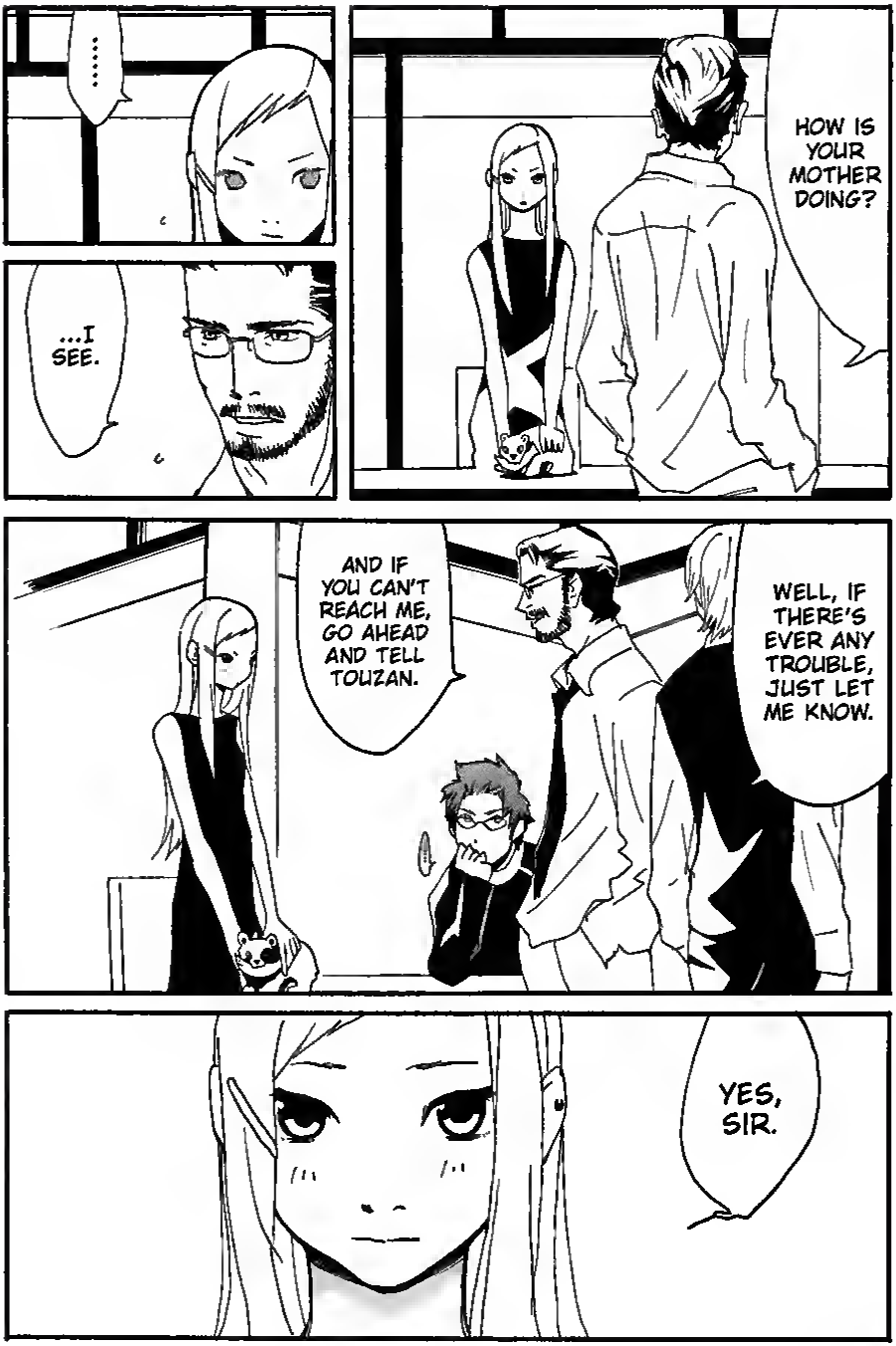

AFTER THAT, THEY RAN INTO THE CAPTAIN OF THE SOCCER TEAM, MATSURI HIKIYAMA, AND FORMED THE MATSURI DETECTIVES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MYSTERIES OF TOUZAN AZUCHI.
BUT ...
FU HA HA HA!
HELP!
YOU'VE GONE FAR ENOUGH, PROFESSOR!!
CRUMBLING
GORO
GORO
SENPAI, THIS IS WRONG
PISHAA (CRASH)
BISHI!! (POINT)
... THEY FAILED.

AZUCHI MANSION
AND THEN ...
DOON (DOOM)
RIIN
RIIN
RIIN (DZZT)
#06 NO EASY WAY OUT

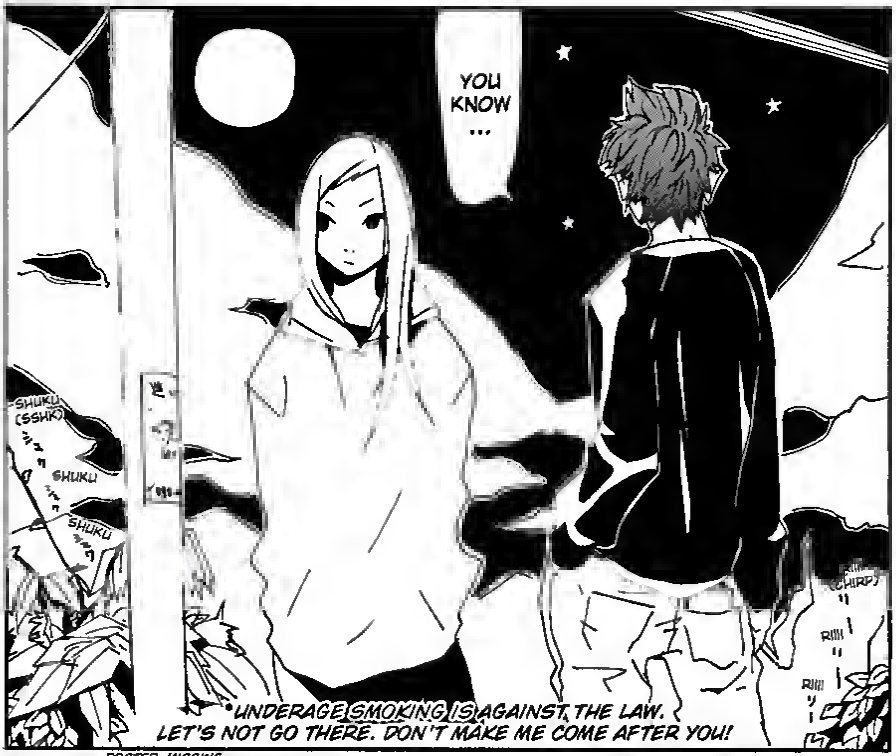

AHH, NOTHING LIKE GOOD OLD JAPANESE FOOD.
DO YOU LIKE IT, MAIKO?
...
HEH HEH.
モフ
MOFU
モフ
MOFU (CHEW)
ガチャ
GACHA (CLACK)
...IN CANADA.
I GOT IT...
ドン
DON (BAM)

SIGN. WELCOME BACK, PARTY FOR JOE-KUN / 1. OPENING SPEECH / 2. GIFTS / 3. POETRY READING / 4. INTERMISSION / 5. TUG OF WAR / 6. MAGIC TRICKS / 7. KARAOKE / 8. TWISTER / 9. CLOSING REMARKS / DON'T FORGET THE SOUVENIRS

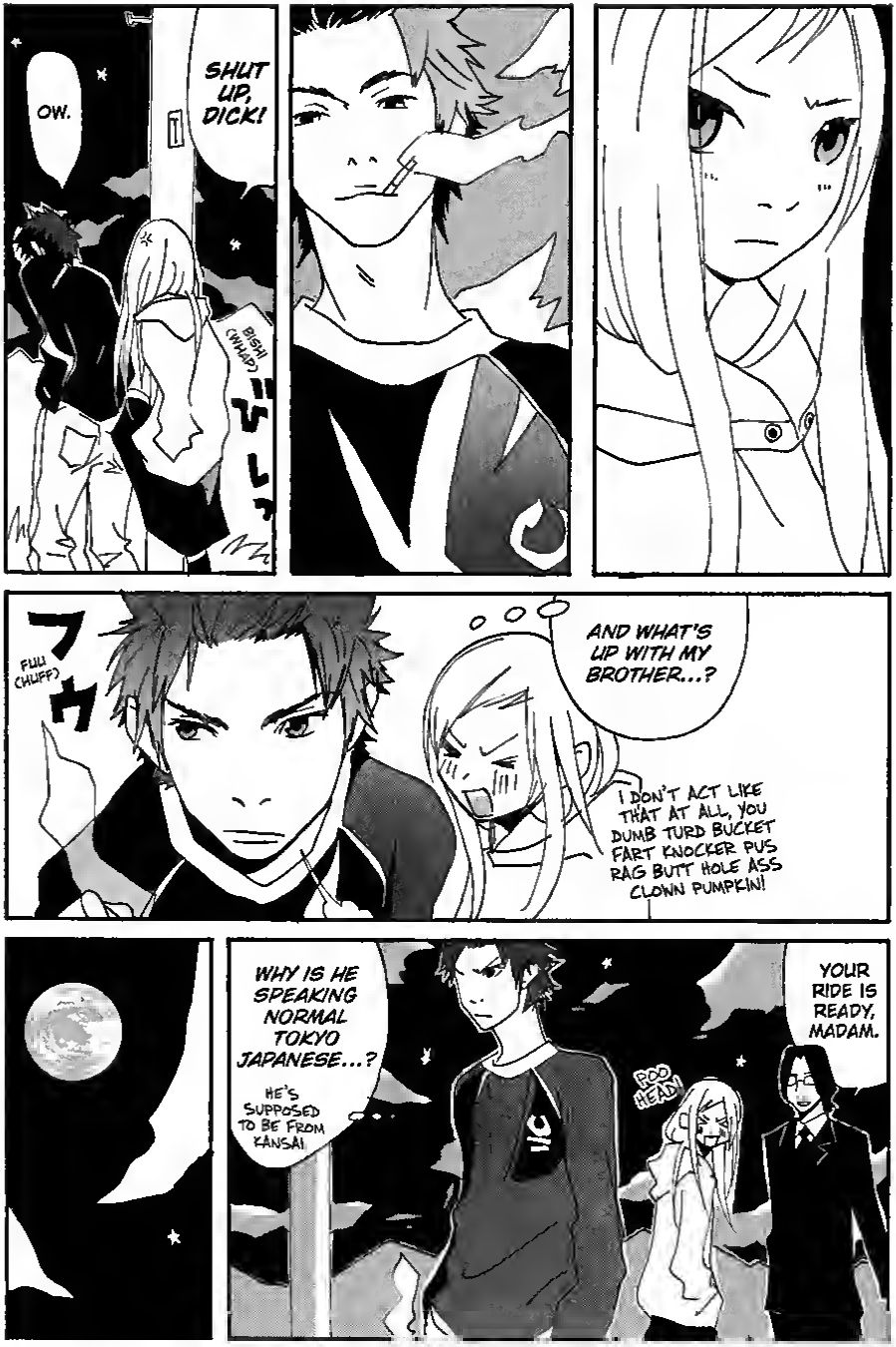



.....
...I SEE.
HOW IS YOUR MOTHER DOING?
AND IF YOU CAN'T REACH ME, GO AHEAD AND TELL TOUZAN.
WELL, IF THERE'S EVER ANY TROUBLE, JUST LET ME KNOW.
YES, SIR.

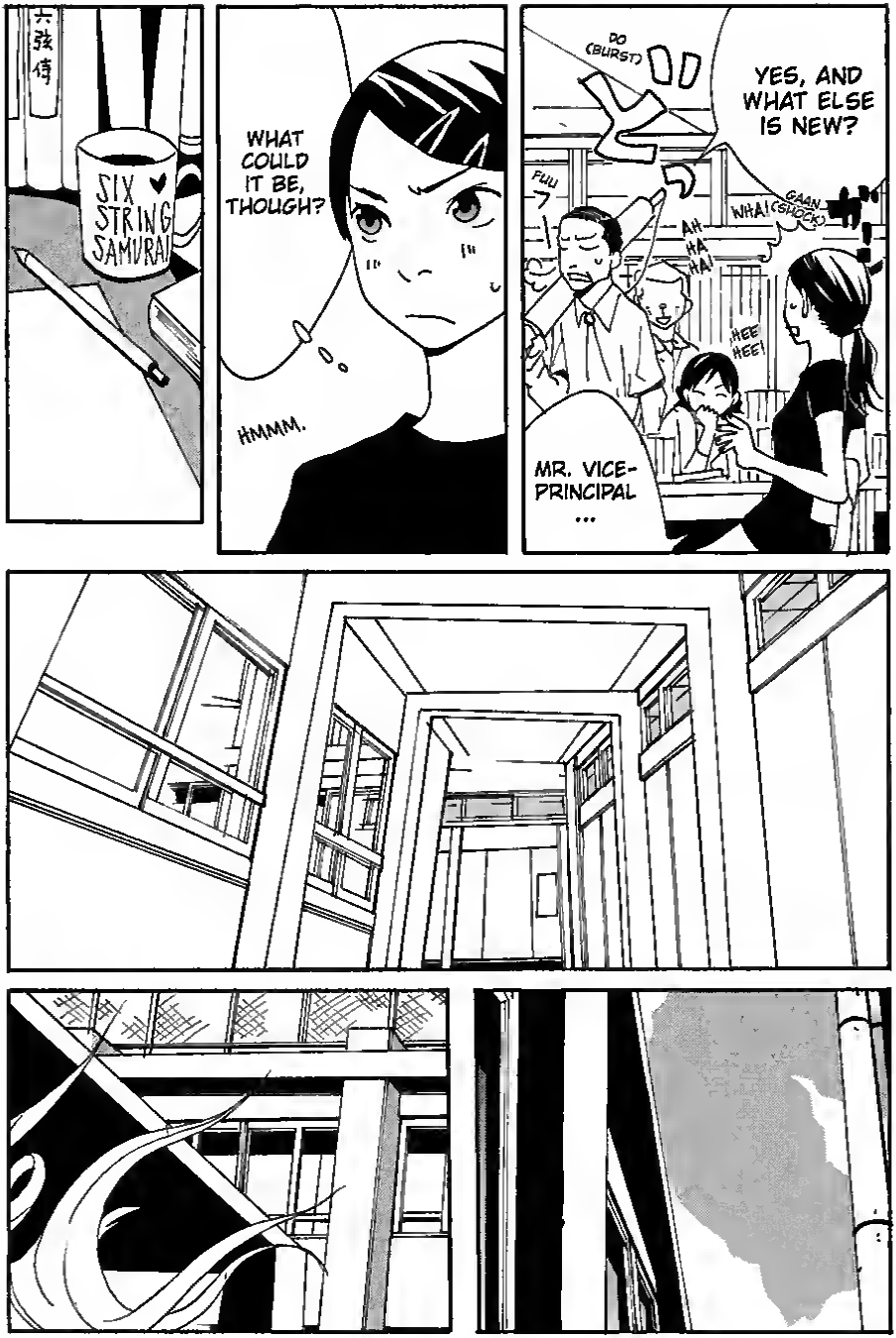
WE'RE COUSINS, YOU KNOW?
YEAH.
YEAH, AND I'LL BE AROUND FOR A WHILE TOO, DUDE. DON'T BE A STRANGER.
"DUDE"?
ZA (SCUFF)


YOU KNOW ...
SHUKU (SSHK)
SHUKU
SHUKU
(CHIRP)
RIIII
RIIII
*UNDERAGE SMOKING IS AGAINST THE LAW. LET'S NOT GO THERE. DON'T MAKE ME COME AFTER YOU!
POSTER: MISSING

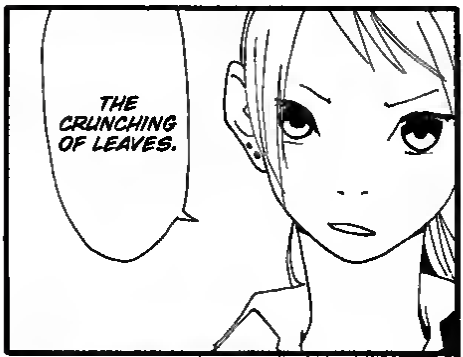
...WHEN YOU'RE AROUND DAD, YOU TURN INTO A NICE LITTLE PET CAT FOR SOME REASON.
URY?
FUU (PUFF)
DOK! (BADMP)

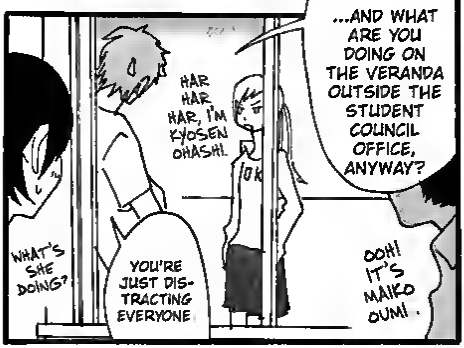

SHUT UP, DICK!
OW.
BISHI (WHAP)
AND WHAT'S UP WITH MY BROTHER...?
I DON'T ACT LIKE THAT AT ALL, YOU DUMB TURD BUCKET FART KNOCKER PUS RAG BUTT HOLE ASS CLOWN PUMPKIN!
FUU (HUFF)
WHY IS HE SPEAKING NORMAL TOKYO JAPANESE...?
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE FROM KANSAI.
POO HEAD
YOUR RIDE IS READY, MADAM.

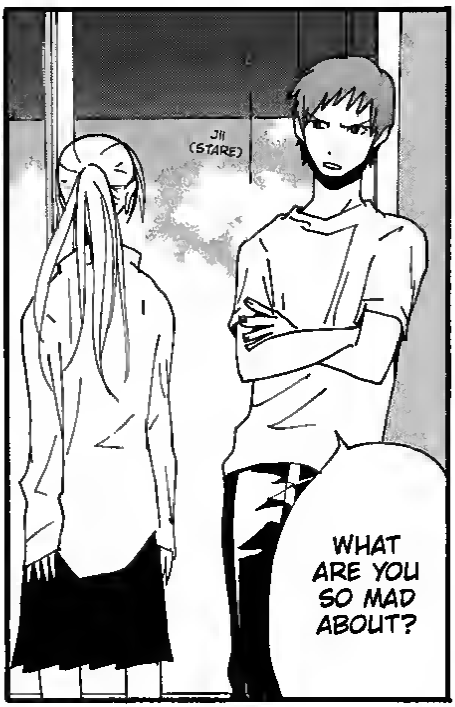
THE NEXT DAY.
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
BA (WHAP)
MMMM!
KAKIIN (CRAACK)
GII (CREAK)
I FEEL LIKE I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT, BUT I HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST IDEA WHAT IT COULD BE.
OH, BOTHER.
HMMM...
FUU (SIGH)
WHAT'S THE MATTER, OKU-SENSEI?
GISHI (CREAK)

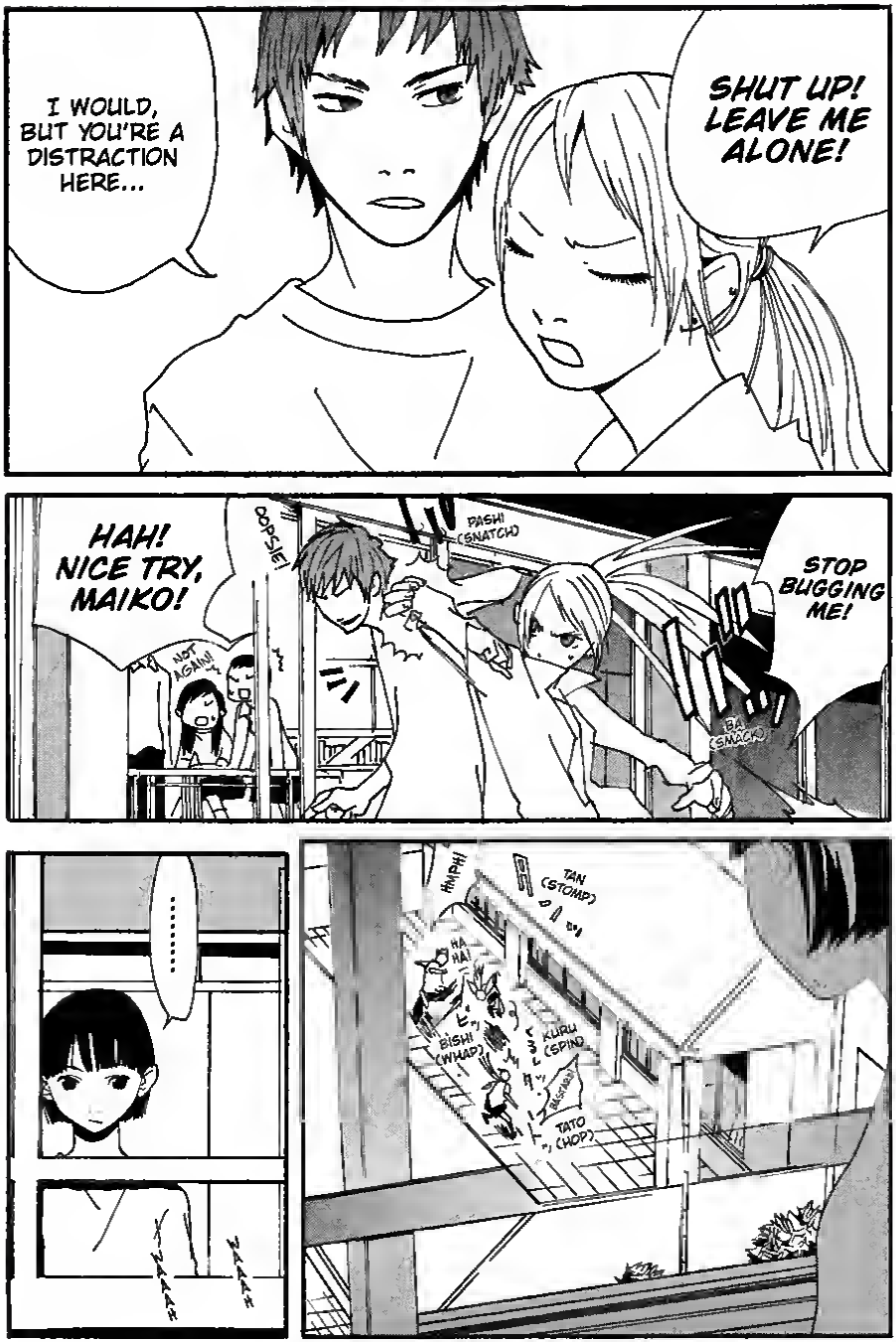

六弦侍
SIX STRING SAMURAI
WHAT COULD IT BE, THOUGH?
HMMM.
DO (BURST)
YES, AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW?
FUU
AH HA HA!
WHA! (GASP)
GAAN (SHOCK)
HEE HEE!
MR. VICE-PRINCIPAL ...

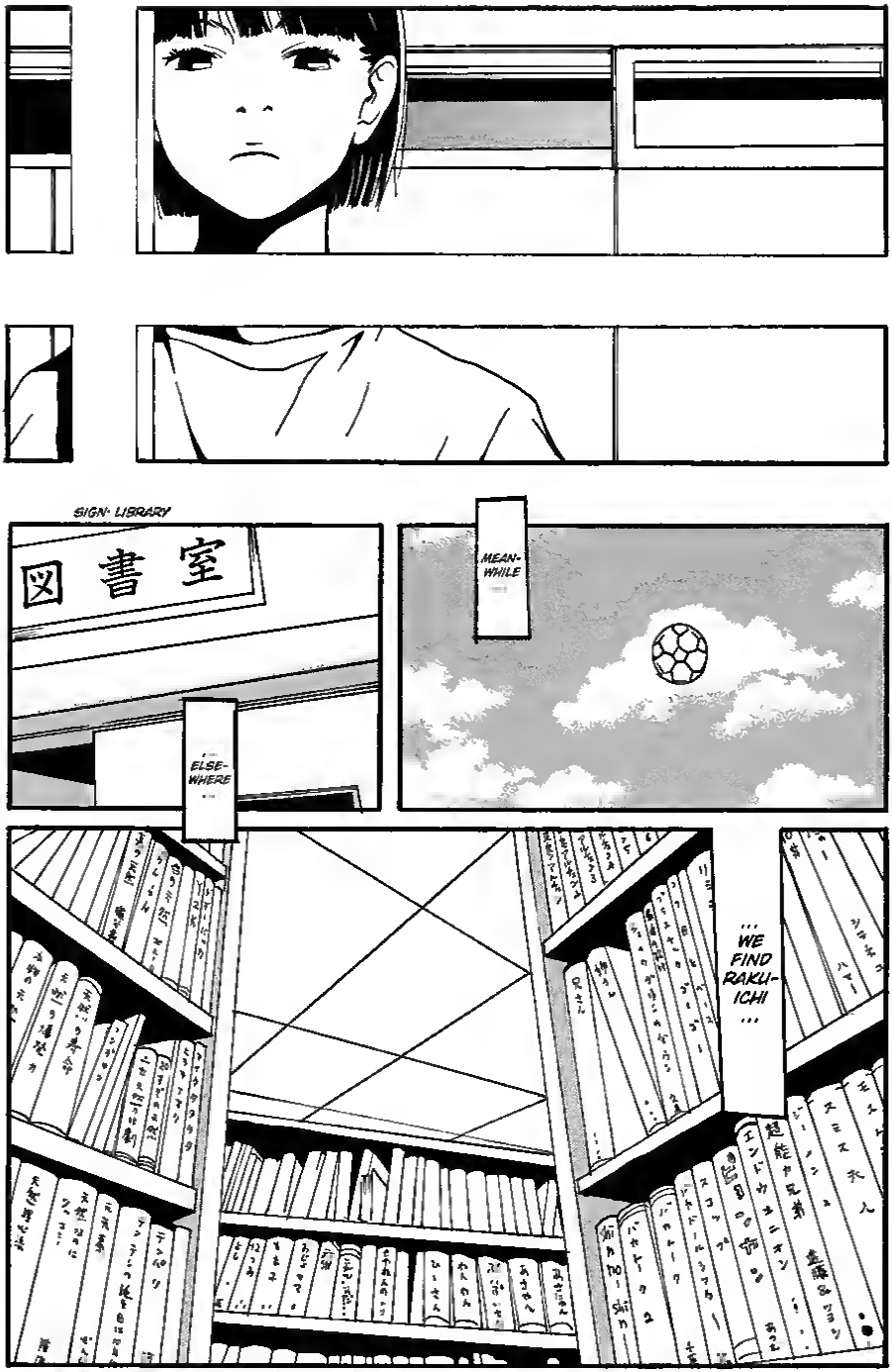
HMMPH.


THE CRUNCHING OF LEAVES.


...AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THE VERANDA OUTSIDE THE STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICE, ANYWAY?
HAR HAR HAR, I'M KYOSEN OHASHI.
OK
WHAT'S SHE DOING?
YOU'RE JUST DISTRACTING EVERYONE.
OOH! IT'S MAIKO OUMI.


JII (STARE)
WHAT ARE YOU SO MAD ABOUT?


I WOULD, BUT YOU'RE A DISTRACTION HERE...
SHUT UP! LEAVE ME ALONE!
HAH! NICE TRY, MAIKO!
DOPSIE!
PASHI (SNATCH)
NOT AGAIN!
STOP BUGGING ME!
BA (SMACK)
.....
ZAAAA
HMPH!
TAN (STOMP)
HA HA!
BISHI (WHAP)
KURU (SPIN)
BACHIN!
TATO (HOP?)



BOOKS: KENZAN ARUCHUN 1-6, BIG BROTHER, BIG SISTER, PLASTIC A-GO-GO, SHAKEDOWN DOWN, #10, STUPID TALK 1-2, PYONGYANG, ESP BROTHERS MRS. SMITH, WOOF WOOF, THIS IS FOR THE BEST, MOMOKO, NATSUMI, DOGGY BAG, Y2K, NATURAL LIPS, TRUE NATURE, THE POWER OF NATURE, NATURE'S LIFESPAN, OWOWOWOW

PARA (FLIP)
PARA
...ONCE AGAIN...
...SKIPPING PRACTICE. ☆
RAKUICHI-KUN.
WHOA... SAGRADA FAMILIA ISN'T SOMEONE'S NAME?
ARE YOU DITCHING PRACTICE AGAIN?
SUMIRE HINO (16)
FROM THE SAME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS RAKUICHI AND INAE. THE LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE FOR ALL SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS

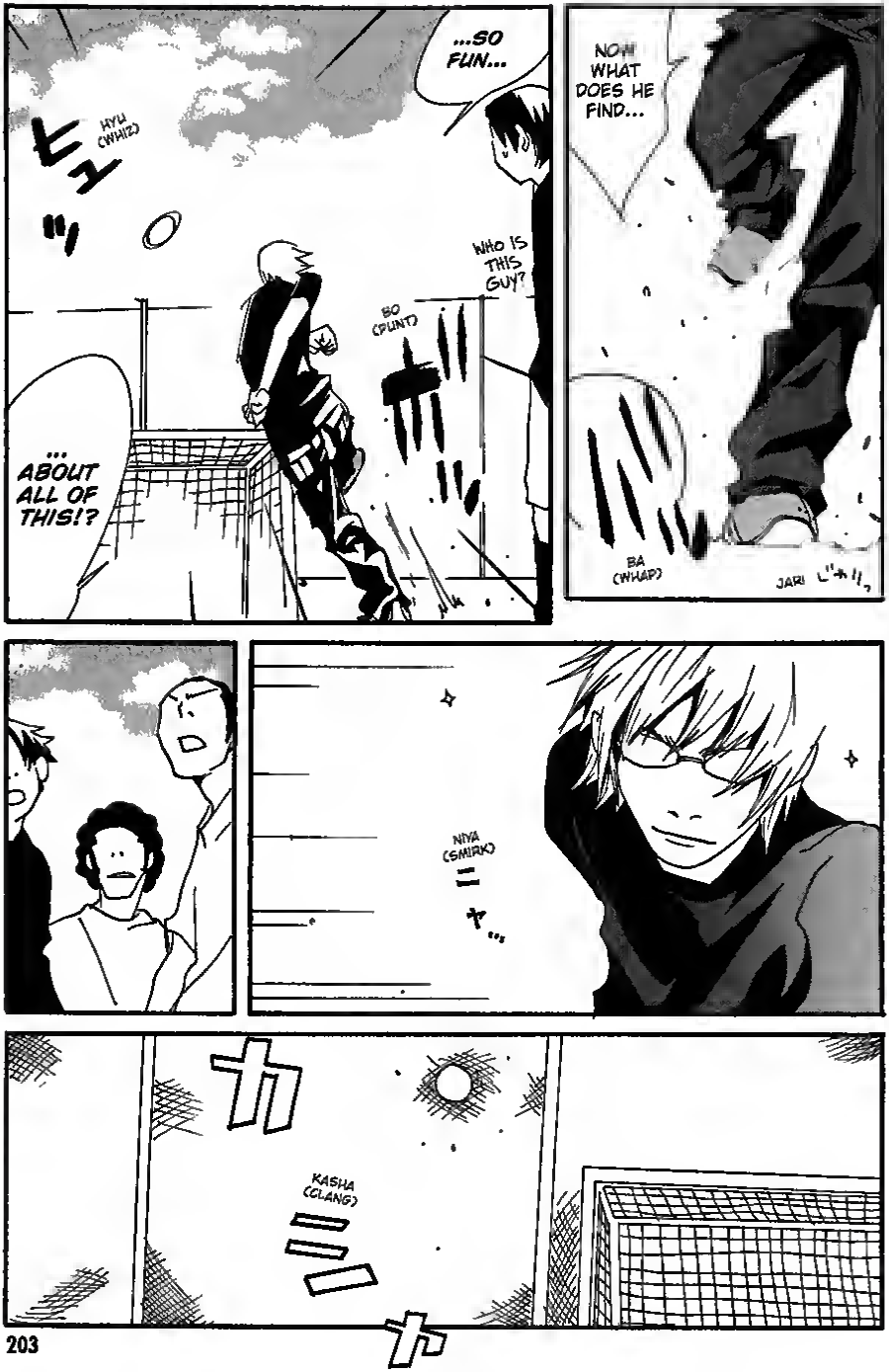
I SAW YOU PLAYING BASKETBALL IN GYM THIS MORNING.
I HAD GYM FOR THIRD PERIOD TOO.
PARDON ME!
HYOITTO (BOING)
OOPS.
YOU ARE SUCH A LIAR.
SU (SWISH)
HOW RUDE. I'M INJURED! IT'S CALLED "GETTING REST."
I NEVER SAID I'D JOIN.
SINCE WHEN WAS I ACTUALLY CONSIDERED A PART OF THE SOCCER TEAM...?
THE NERVE!
FUNNY YOU'D SAY THAT, CONSIDERING YOU PLAYED IN A GAME WITH THEM AND EVERYTHING!
INAE-CHAN'S GONNA BE ANGRY WITH YOU.
UGH.

HE'S SO NICE.
WHAT? WHY NOT? I THINK HE'S GREAT.
REALLY? YOU KNOW HIM?
YOU DON'T LIKE THE SOCCER TEAM?
MMMM...
UPSY-DAISY.
WELL, I SURE DON'T LIKE AZUCHI.
EVERYONE SEEMS TO LOVE AZUCHI.
EVEN INAE-CHAN THINKS—
NYU (POKE)
EVEN I THINK WHAT?
IT'S WEIRD.
AH HA HA!
WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS LAST YEAR.
OHHH.

ひょこっ
HYOKO (POP)
FOUND YOU!
UGH!
NAAAH!
GASHI (GRAB)
ニヤ
NIYA (SMIRK)
SFX: SUTA (STRUT) SUTA
SU (STEP)
YOU ARE SUCH A PAIN!
C'MON, LET'S GO!
NOT HIM AGAIN!
TSK!
UHH, WAIT, I'M INJURED ...
BISHI (CHOP)
YAAH!
GYO (SHOCK)
!?
OUCH!
HUH?

SFX: BIKKURIKURI (COMPLETE SHOCK) KURIKURIKKURI
PARDON?
!?
UH, HINO-SAN...?
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY NEED TO FORCE RAKUICHI-KUN TO GO!
HEY, WHY THE HELL ARE THERE ONLY FOUR OF US HERE!?
HA HA HA! (HA!)
TOO FEW!
WHAT KINDA TEAM IS THIS!?
GOOD WORK, TEAM! ☆ LET'S TAKE A BREAK.
HOOKAY!
MMM!
KAKIIN (CLAMP)
THAT'S MY GUESS.
HE MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL.
AND AZUCHI'S WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
UH, WHAT?
HE SAID HE WAS IN MOURNING FOR HIS BIKE OR SOMETHING.
FUU (SIGH)
GOKYU (GLUG)
GOKYU
EVEN YOUKAICHI'S SKIPPING OUT ON US?

...WHO ARE YOU?
...TRAINING.
LOW-LEVEL...
HM?
!
DIRT FIELD.
JARI (CRUNCH)
HMPH
NO SIGN OF A LEADER OF ANY SORT.
POOR MEMBER TURNOUT.
WHO'S THIS GUY?
ZUI (SHOVE)
WE'RE TALKIN' TO YOU!
SHUT UP
THIS PLACE IS A MESS!
WHAT THE...?
JIRIRIRI (CROOOO

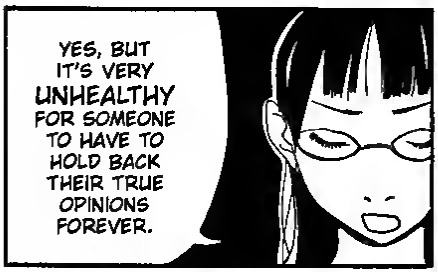

...SO FUN...
HYU (WHIZ)
WHO IS THIS GUY?
BO (PUNT)
...ABOUT ALL OF THIS!?
NOW WHAT DOES HE FIND...
BA (WHAP)
JARI
NIYA (SMIRK)
KASHA (CLANG)

YET HE'S STRIKING A POSE.
HEH!
WHAT A DWEEB!!!
AND HE LOST HIS SHOE!!
POTEN (PLOP)
HE TOTALLY WHIFFED!!
NHAA!?
HYU (WHOO)
BY A MILE!
HAA (GASP)
WITH-OUT A GOAL-KEEPER!
GABIIIN (BOUNCE)
YOU CAN CALL ME JOE!
NICE TO MEETCHA. ☆
FURU (SHIVER)
WHAT THE HELL IS HE TALKING ABOUT?
OH MY GOD, WHAT A DORK!!
AND I CAME HERE TO GUIDE YOU SHLUBS TO THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT!
HUHHHH?

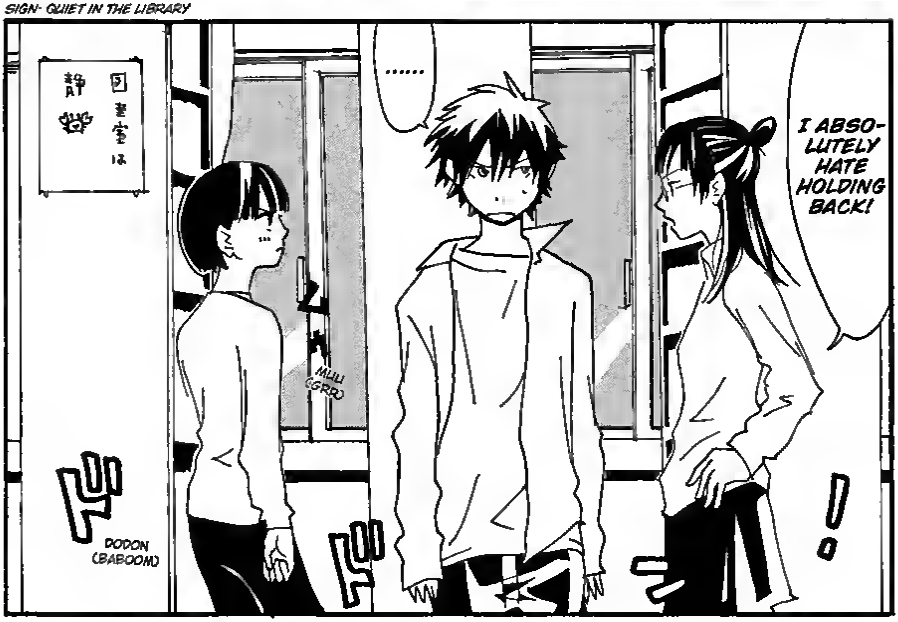
SFX. DAA (CROOL)

...PARTICIPATION IN CLUB ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL.
IF YOU ASK ME...
BUT I'M THE MANAG—
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
WHO CARES ABOUT RIGHTS?
YOU'RE NOT RESPECTING RAKUICHI-KUN'S OPINIONS!
...YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO DRAG HIM TO PRACTICE IF HE DOESN'T WANT TO GO!
THEREFORE...

THAT'S HOW THE WORLD WORKS
BUT YOU CAN'T JUST DITCH EVERY TIME YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING THINGS! THERE ARE RULES!
IT'S CAUSING TROUBLE FOR EVERYONE ELSE ON THE TEAM!
THIS IS A TEAM SPORT.



SIGN: QUIET IN THE LIBRARY



.....
.....
SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
CAN
UGH
ALL RIGHT.
BU (BZZT)
Hino-san from Class 2-1, please report to Takashima in the faculty room at once. Hino-san from...
Oh! nice
SFX: PIN PON (DING-DONG) PAN PON (DANG-DONG)
SORRY FOR BUGGING YOU ABOUT THIS, RAKUICHI. SEEYA.
UH, INAE-CHAN?
BA (WHIP)

TOUZAN.
GII
GACHA (LOCK)
FOOTBALL CLUB!
SFX: GUDA (SLUMP)
AND THERE HE GOES, AFTER ALL.
C'MON, WAIT UP, NAE-CHAN!
SUTA (STRUT)
SUTA
SUTA
SFX: GII (CREAK)
..IS AN ASSHOLE
GUH, THIS SUCKS
WHY ARE YOU LYING ON THE GROUND?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING...?

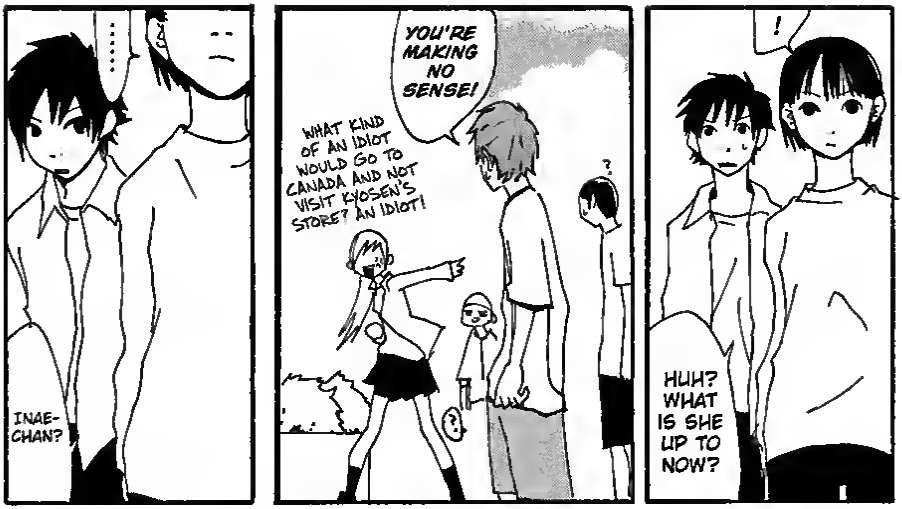
KINDA NOISY OUT HERE.
HM?
SURE, WHATEVER.
SOLUTION: IGNORE HER!
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
KAKIIN (CRACK)
IF I KNEW THAT, I WOULDN'T BE HAVING ALL THESE GODDAMN PROBLEMS, WOULD IIIII!!?
GUSUKU ...!?
PISH! (SND?)
COME ON, PEOPLE! YOU'RE THINNING OUT THE DEFENSE!!
A NEW HOTTIE.
SERIOUSLY, WHO IS THAT GUY?
.....
UFU FU!
EH HE HE!

AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HEH.
THAT'S A SURPRISING ATTITUDE, COMING FROM SOMEONE WHO ARRIVED AT PRACTICE LATE.
ESPECIALLY TO YOUR COACH.
YO.
COACH!?
HUH!?
FUFUFU
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
NO FAIR, SOCCER TEAM!
I'M SO JEALOUS!
SHIRTS TENNIS
!
GUSUKU?
MUKURI (RISE)
HUH?

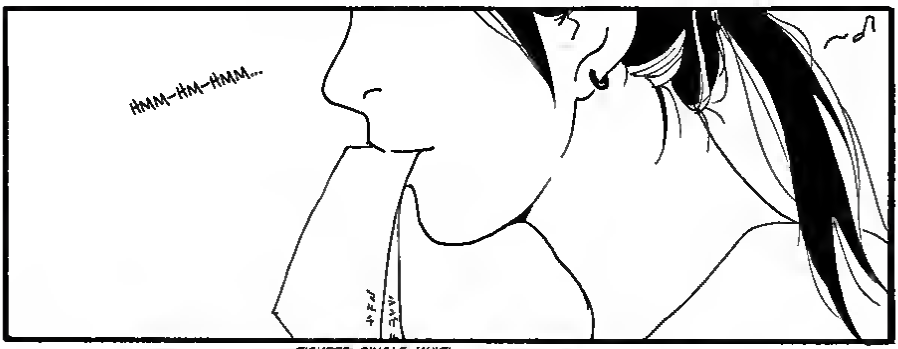
I'M NOT MAD!
HOW LONG WILL YOU BE MAD ABOUT—
ZUN (STRIDE)
ZUN
ZUN
YOU SURE SOUND MAD TO—
WELL I'M NOT!!!
INAE-SAN? INAE-SAN.
!
PITA (FREEZE)
SOME-ONE'S AN ANGRY LITTLE PIGGY!
YOU WERE MAD ABOUT SOMETHING YESTERDAY TOO...
!?
CHU
REPLAYING MEMORIES
UGH...
CHU (SMOOCH)

STUPID JERKY RAKUICHI!
DAA (DASH)
DUMMY DUMB DUM-DUM!
KI (GLARE)
!
BIKU (FLINCH)
SFX: PATA (PATTER) PATA
GAAN (SHOCK)
.....
BISHI (CRACK)
BOGO (WHACK)

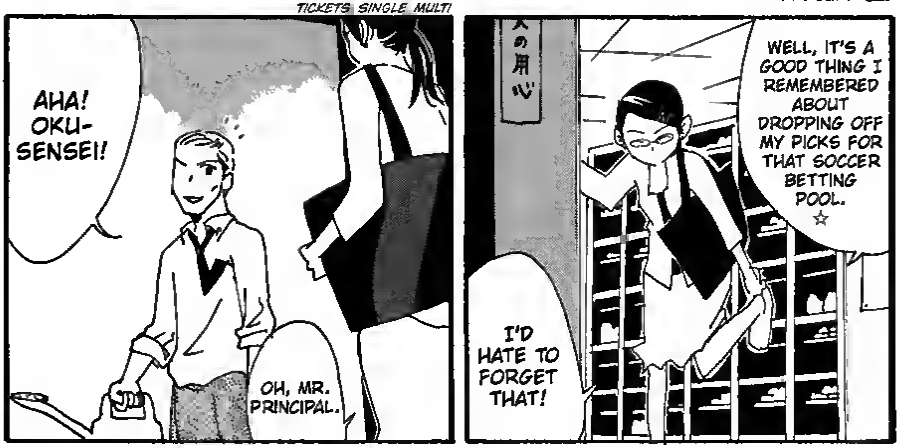
*SEE P.186, THIRD PANEL.


INAE-CHAN?
.....
WHAT KIND OF AN IDIOT WOULD GO TO CANADA AND NOT VISIT KYOSEN'S STORE? AN IDIOT!
YOU'RE MAKING NO SENSE!
?
?
!
HUH? WHAT IS SHE UP TO NOW?

*1. MAIKO IS A KYOSEN FAN.
*2. KYOSEN HAS HIS OWN STORE IN CANADA.



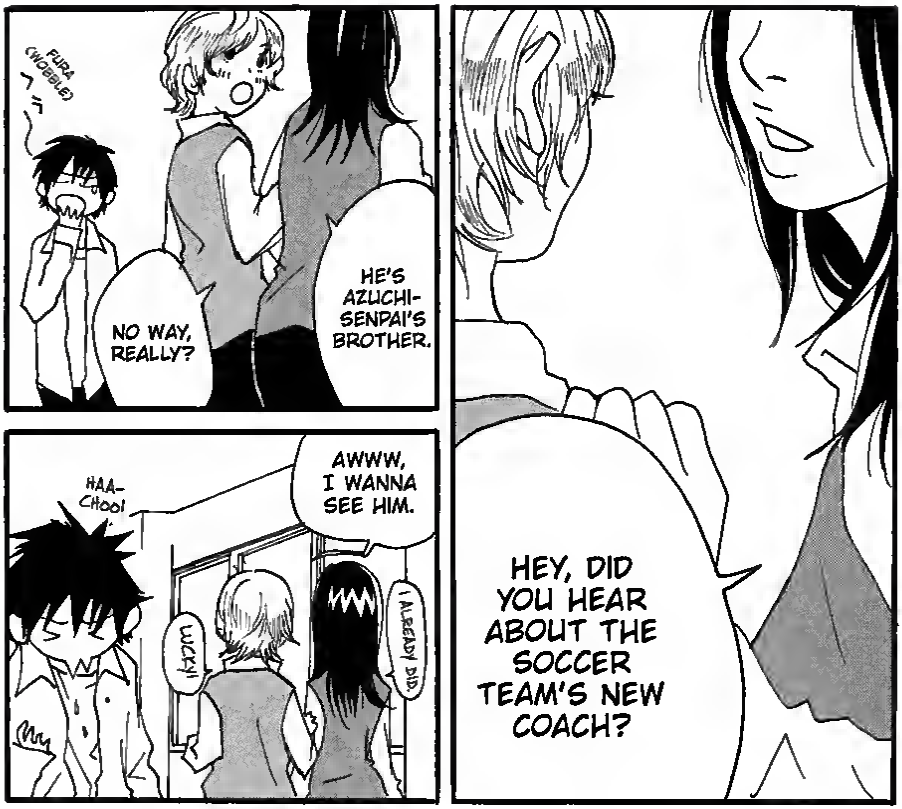
TICKETS SINGLE MULTI

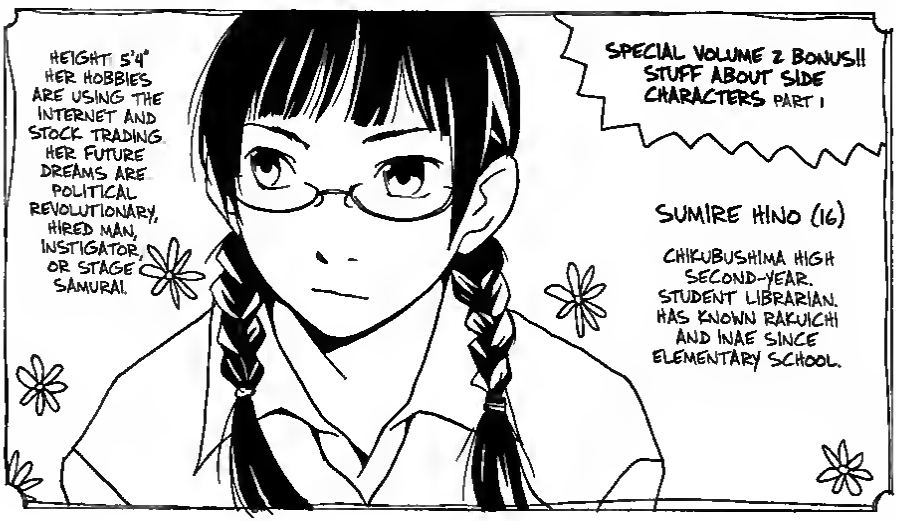

AHA! OKU-SENSEI!
OH, MR. PRINCIPAL.
I'D HATE TO FORGET THAT!
WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING I REMEMBERED ABOUT DROPPING OFF MY PICKS FOR THAT SOCCER BETTING POOL. ☆

SIGN: WATCH OUT FOR FIRE

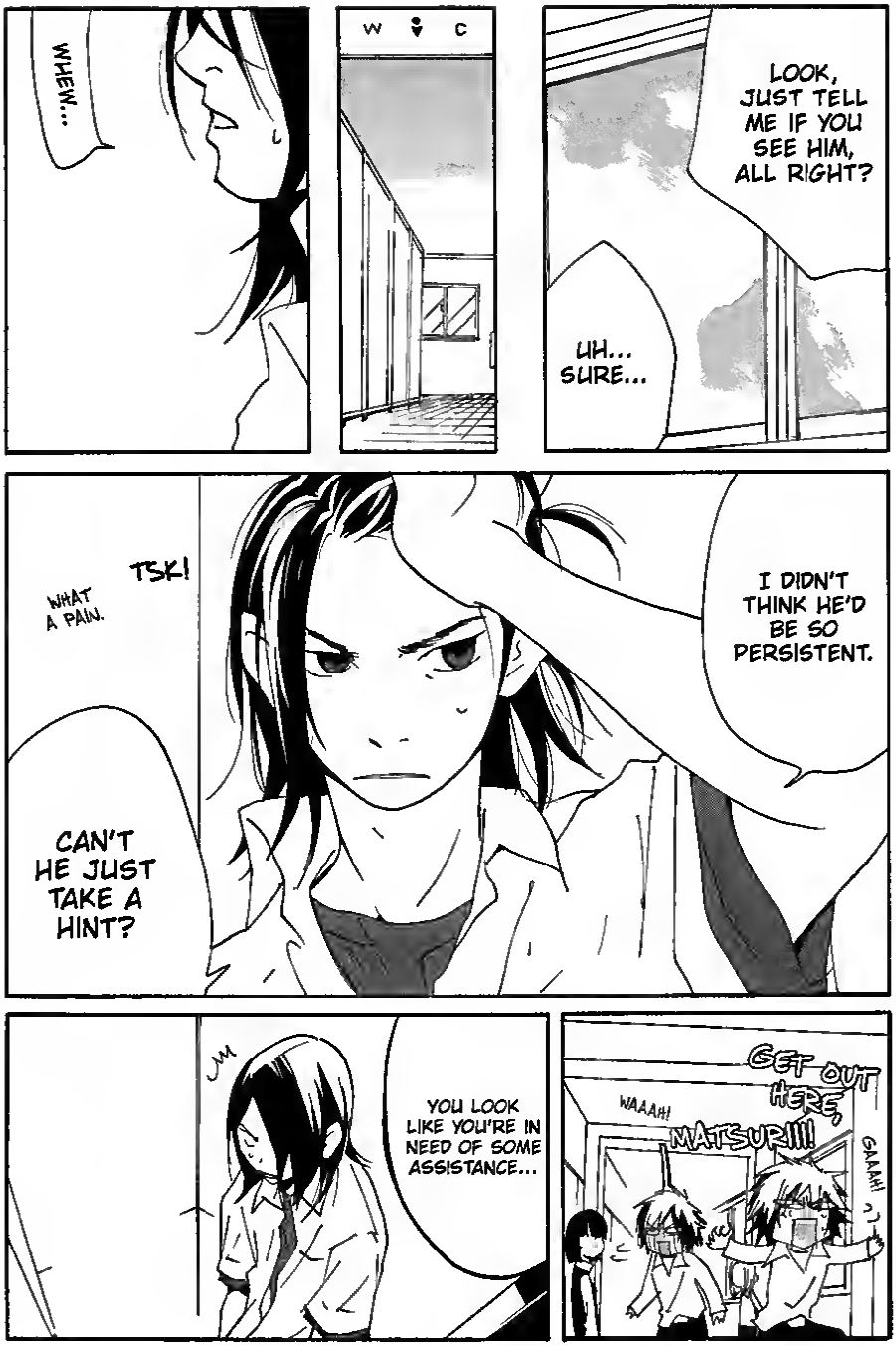
!
I'M VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS WINTER'S TOURNAMENT PRELIMS.
IT'S NEARLY UPON US, ISN'T IT?
GOSH, IT'S A HOT ONE TODAY!
HMM...
TUR-NA-MINT PREE-LIMS...
OH...
FORGOT IT WITH THE FULL FORCE OF A WRECKING BALL.
BIWAKO OKU (28) CAN BE KIND OF A DITZ.
DAAAHH!! THAT'S WHAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO RE-MEMBER !!!
I NEEDED TO MAIL IN THE FORMS FOR THAT!!
TOTALLY FORGOT!

#07
ANYWAY,
ANYHOW,
ANYWHERE
Oh, can't you see I'm, I'm out of my head!!


HEY, DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE SOCCER TEAM'S NEW COACH?
FUFA (WOBBLE)
NO WAY, REALLY?
HE'S AZUCHI-SENPAI'S BROTHER.
HAA-CHOO!
AWWW, I WANNA SEE HIM.
LUCKY!
I ALREADY DID.

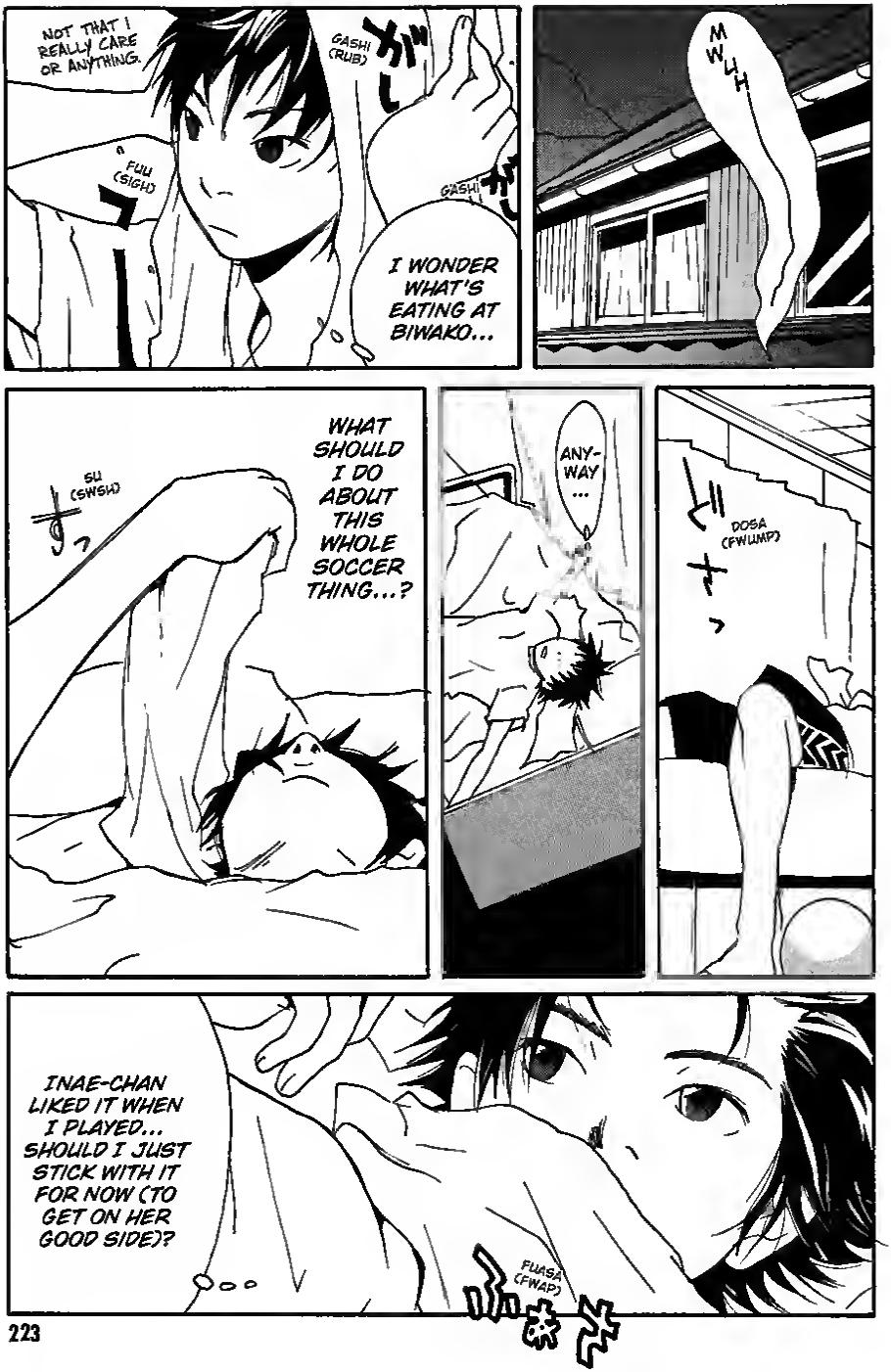

SPECIAL VOLUME 2 BONUS!! STUFF ABOUT SIDE CHARACTERS PART 1
SUMIRE HINO (16)
CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SECOND-YEAR. STUDENT LIBRARIAN. HAS KNOWN RAKUICHI AND INAE SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
HEIGHT 5'4" HER HOBBIES ARE USING THE INTERNET AND STOCK TRADING. HER FUTURE DREAMS ARE POLITICAL REVOLUTIONARY, HIRED MAN, INSTIGATOR, OR STAGE SAMURAI.

YO.
UH, YOUKAICHI?
YOU SEEN MATSURI-SENPAI, MAN?
AHA! NAGAHAMA!
AZUCHI'S BROTHER...?
ZU (SNIFF)
OH, NOTHING. HE ONLY DESTROYED THE SCOOTER THAT I SPENT AGES WORKING AND SAVING UP TO BUY, PROMISED TO PAY ME BACK FOR IT, AND IS NOW RUNNING LIKE HELL FROM ME, THAT'S ALL. NO BIGGIE.
HA-HA-HA. OH, I REMEMBER THAT..
SIGH. WHAT'S A GUY TO DO?
FU FU FU...
MATSUR!...
NAH, I HAVEN'T... WHAT'S UP?


WHEW...
W C
LOOK, JUST TELL ME IF YOU SEE HIM, ALL RIGHT?
UH... SURE...
I DIDN'T THINK HE'D BE SO PERSISTENT.
TSK!
WHAT A PAIN.
CAN'T HE JUST TAKE A HINT?
UM
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN NEED OF SOME ASSISTANCE...
GET OUT HERE, MATSUR!!!
WAAAH!
GAAAH!

PRINCIPAL!?
FU-FU-FU. THIS IS NOT COMFORTABLE
...MATSURI HIKIYAMA-KUN.
UPSY-DAISY
NYU (POKE)
GISHI (CREAK)
CRAZY OLD MAN...
HEH. HEH.
HAA (PANT)
PURU (SHAKE)
I'VE GOT JUST THE STORY FOR YOU, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED...
PURU
NOW, THIS IS TIRING.
HAA
SO...
FU FU FU
HUH!? THE PRINCIPAL!?
...I HEAR YOU'RE IN NEED OF SOME MONEY.
PIKU (TWITCH)

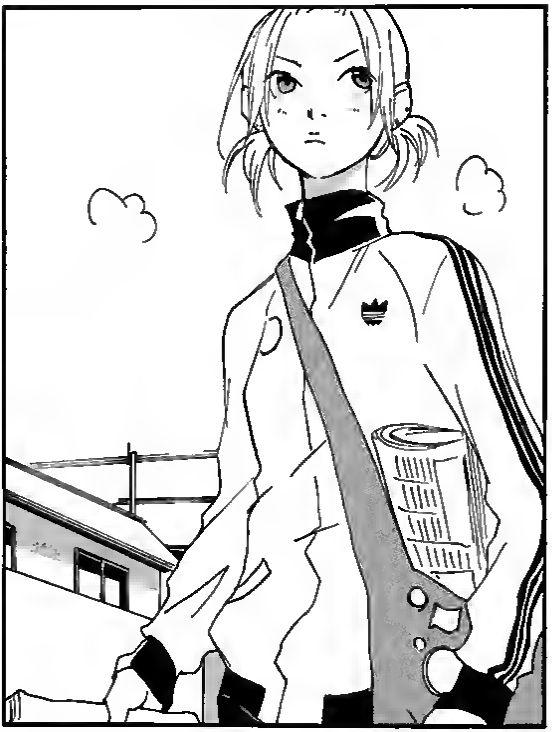
AHHHHH...
FUHH (SIGH)
フヒー
*BINAKO
...WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
STRANGE TO SEE HER DOWN.
SIIIGH.
NRRFF.
GUDAA (GLUMP)
ぐだー
AS IF I'D ACTUALLY TELL YOU!
ケンタさー
GOOD POINT.
FORGET I ASKED.

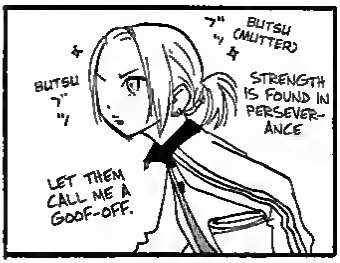

NOT THAT I REALLY CARE OR ANYTHING.
GASHI (RUB)
FUU (SIGH)
GASHI
I WONDER WHAT'S EATING AT BIWAKO...
MUH
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THIS WHOLE SOCCER THING...?
SU (SWSH)
ANY-WAY...
DOSA (FWUMP)
INAE-CHAN LIKED IT WHEN I PLAYED... SHOULD I JUST STICK WITH IT FOR NOW (TO GET ON HER GOOD SIDE)?
FUASA (FWAP)

ФА СТИНАЮ
CHIKARA SUMA
15

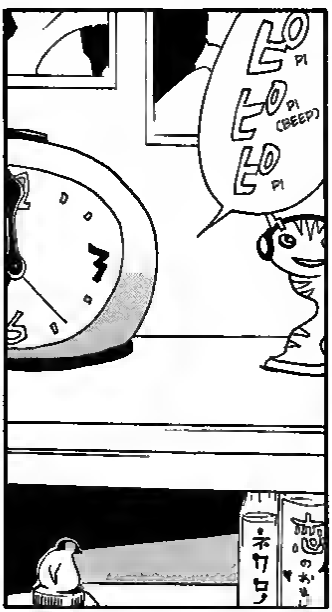
...HIKI-YAMA...
MATSURI
...
WHAT A WEIRDO.
TA (TMP)
TA
TA
CHUN (CHIRP)
CHUN
HUFF
HUFF

ONCE AGAIN THIS MORNING, THE (SELF-STYLED) PRESIDENT OF THE CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER CLUB, MAIKO OUMI (17) WAS DELIVERING HER SLIGHTLY CREEPY PAPER.





ANOTHER GOOD DAY. ☆



BOOKS: THE CHARMS OF LOVE, NECRONOMICON

SIGN: KAWASE

AZUCHI-SENPAI...
BO (DAZED)
ボー
.....
MUNYA (SLEEPY)
むにゃ
MUNYA
むにゃ
APRON, MOM
SFX: HOWAAN (BEAM)
GOOD MORNING SENPAI GOOD MORNING SENPAI GOOD MORNING SENPAI GOOD MORNING SENPAI GOOD MORNING SENPAI...
COME ON GIRL!
UFU FU!
GACHA (CLICK)
AZUCHI-OBSESSED INAE WAKES UP EVERY MORNING WITH A CHEERY GREETING TO THE THREE HUNDRED TOUZAN AZUCHIS ADORNING HER WALL...A PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN PART OF HER DAY IS BROUGHT TO LIGHT!!
GOOD MORNING. ♡
MISSHIRI (PACKED)
VOODOO DOLL MAIKO

GOOD MORNING.
キュピーン (SPARKLE)
MORNIN'
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT
HUH? DID YOU WALK HERE TODAY, SENSEI?
YEAH, SHE'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD FOR THE LAST DAY OR SO.
STRANGE
...HEY.
I'M SORRY, KIDS.
I'VE GOT SOME-THING TO CONFESS ...

AND GIVE ME A PROPER ANSWER!
TCH!
ARRGH!
TCH! TCH!
LOOK AT THEM FLIRTING IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.
WELL, ENOUGH ABOUT ALL THAT. YOU'D BETTER COME TO PRACTICE TODAY!
WHOA! IGNORED!?
YEAH, YEAH.
GAAN (SHOCK)
BAD!
YOU LITTLE RASCAL!
HAT FEET
SUCH FILTH!
GWAH!
SUWA (HUURMUR)
HUH?
KYUUN (TWINGE)
LUCKY BASTARD
FOR REAL?
EEP!
P-PINKY PROMISE!?
NOW THAT'S A PINKY PROMISE, UNDERSTAND? YOU HAVE TO SHOW UP!
SHIRT HARAJUKU
KIIN (DING)
KAAN (DANG)
KOON (DONG)
KIIN
KOON
KOON
GODDAMN!
GO TO HELL!
AND THE HATRED SPREADS ...
F**K!
GAA (KICK)
SON OF A BITCH!
UAAAH!
PTUI
PTUI
PTUI
HARUKA
GASHA (CRASH)
GROSS!
BUNCHA BS!

SHIRT: CHIKUBUSHIMA

NGAGATAPIIII (FZZTTZSCREEE)
BIKU
PASHI (SHATTER)
BIKU (FLINCH)
PISHA (CRACK)
PORO (ROLL)
ZURURI (SLIP)
SU (SWSH)
DOKI
DOKI (BADUMP)
HNN?
MATSURI-SENPAI?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON...?
IF THIS IS THE BEST YOU CAN DO, OUR DREAM OF CONQUERING THE NATION IS BUT A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM!!
KUWA (ROAR)
ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCCER TEAM, GATHER AT THE SCHOOL FIELD!!
METALLI
THE BEST WE CAN DO?
THAT'S WHERE WE ARE

SURELY YOU DO NOT THINK THAT WINNING THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT IS FAR BEYOND OUR MEANS!?
NAY!!
JUST REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED IN THAT MATCH THE OTHER DAY!!
HUH?
ハイ?
CONQUERING THE NATION?
WHAT'S HE ON ABOUT?
GENTLE-MEN!
THAT WAS THEIR SECOND-STRING, THOUGH...
WE ACHIEVED A TIE! WITH THE SECOND-TOUGHEST SCHOOL IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY! KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH!!
WHAT THIS MEANS ...!

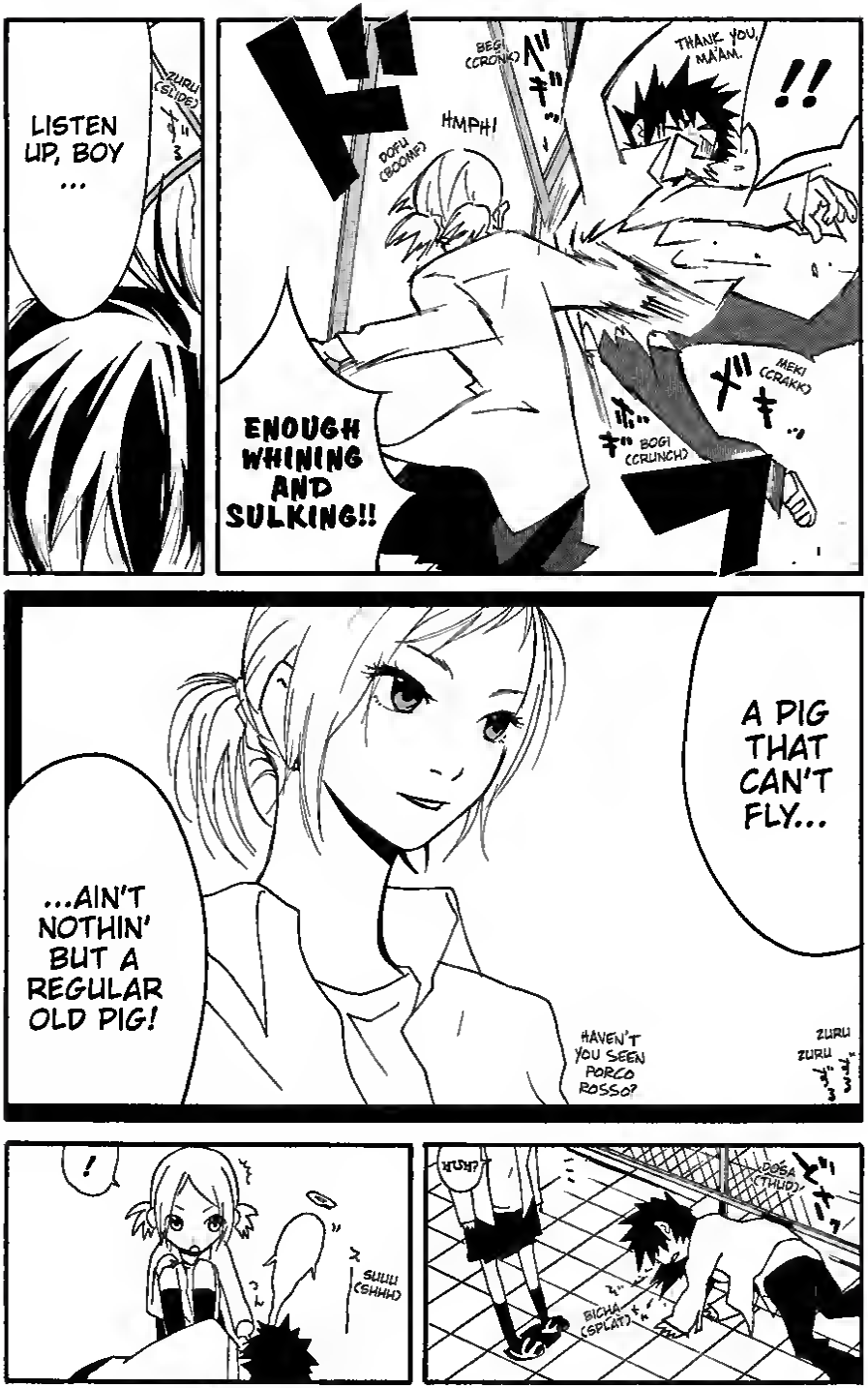
YEAH! IF WE HAD OUR BEST LINEUP FROM THE START, WHO KNOWS!?
IN FACT, REMEMBER HOW MATSURI-SENPAI ONLY PLAYED PARTWAY THROUGH THE MATCH?
HE MIGHT JUST HAVE A POINT!
I THINK WE CAN DO IT!
WHO ARE YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT ACCORDING TO MY DATA, WE HAVEN'T LOST A SINGLE GAME THIS YEAR THAT MATSURI-SENPAI HAS PLAYED!!
THAT'S ONLY THREE GAMES THOUGH
IS THAT CHIKU-BUSHIMA HIGH'S SOCCER TEAM HAS TALENT THAT STANDS EQUAL TO THE SECOND-BEST SCHOOL IN JAPAN!!
YEAH RIGHT
OOH!
DOON (BANG)
I, MATSURI HIKIYAMA, CAPTAIN OF THE SOCCER TEAM, SWEAR TO YOU! WE WILL DEFEAT KUSATSU HIDARI AND ACHIEVE OUR GOAL OF BEING BEST IN THE NATION! NOW IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO STAND! WE HAVE BEEN CHOSEN!!
BA (WHAP)
WAIT!
ITALIA!
MATSURI-SENPAI!
AZUCHI WAS CHOSEN FOR THE NATIONAL TEAM! NAGAHAMA PLAYED IN ITALY! THE TIME HAS COME!
WAAIT!
OOH!
YEAH...
HA HA..
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
WELL, THE SOCCER TEAM IS QUITE EXCITED!
WAAIT!
WAAIT!
SIGS ZEOS
STAND, CITIZENS!

OKU-SEN-SEI.
THIS IS ONLY GOING TO MAKE IT HARDER TO BRING UP THE FACT THAT I FORGOT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE TOURNAMENT...
HMMM...
STILL, THEY DITCH ALL THE TIME. WHO ARE THEY TO COMPLAIN ABOUT ONE LITTLE MISTAKE ON MY PART?
DOES THAT MEAN MATSURI'S FINALLY STARTING TO CARE...?
WHAT'S HE PLAYING AT?
AND IT SEEMS TO BE HIKIYAMA WHO'S WORKING THEM UP, OF ALL PEOPLE...
OF-OF COURSE, SIR. AS YOU SAY...
あたふた
ATAFUTA (FLUSTERED)
WAH, PRIN-CIPAL!
SOUNDS LIKE THE TEAM'S IN THE RIGHT MOOD. I HOPE IT TRANSLATES TO SUCCESS.
ガシャン
KASHAN (CRASH)
YOU HEAR WHAT HE'S SAYING DOWN THERE?
YOUR CAPTAIN'S SERIOUS.

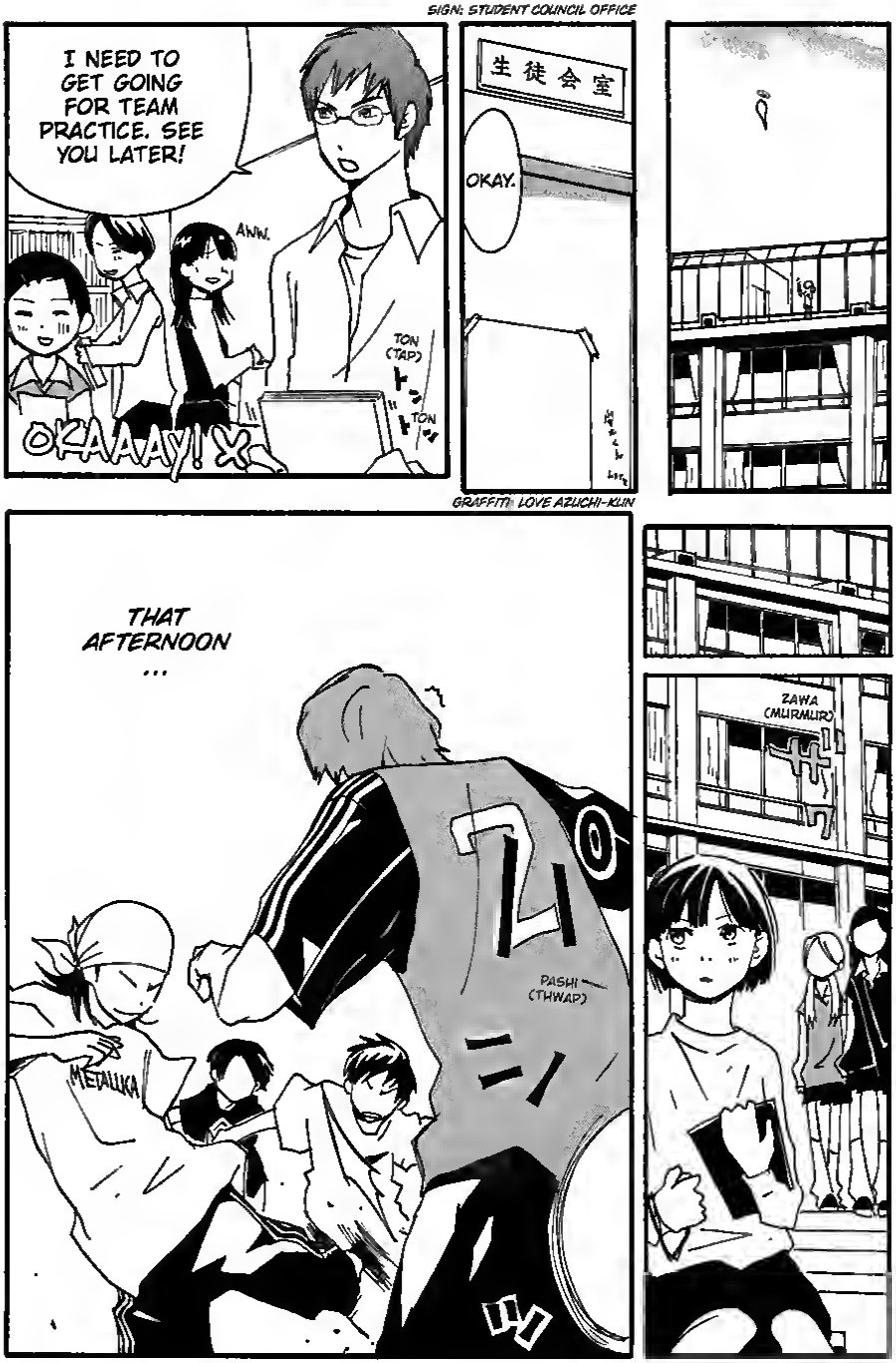
C'MON, ROOKIE!
WE ARE POWERFUL LET'S WIN IT ALL. LET'S
YOU WILL STARE AT THIS COIN AND WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP!!
!?
MATSURI-SENPAI IS THE GREATEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD
AREN'T YOU GONNA GO JOIN THEM?
SFX BUTSU (MUTTER) BUTSU
WE SHALL WIN FOR MATSURI-SAMA NANOO NANOO.
WE ARE GREAT PLAYERS
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS
WE WILL WIN WE WILL WIN
BUTSU
BUTSU
ALL THAT'S LEFT TO TAKE CARE OF IS TOUZAN AND THE KID...
HEH HEH
.....
GASHAN
OWW!
GON (KONK)
BAN (BANG)
RAKU-ICHI!

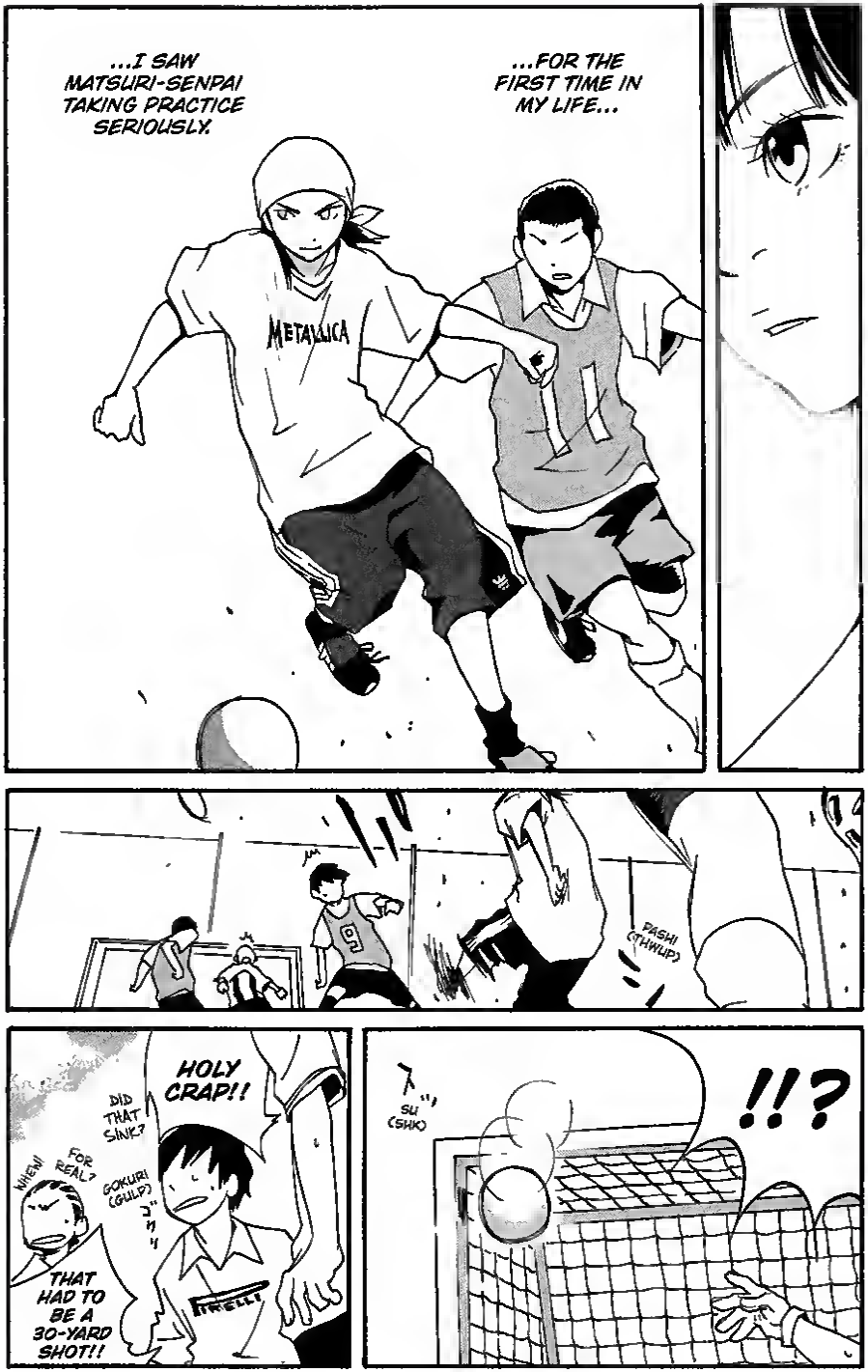
Yo.
.....
CHUUU (SLURP)
Ah...
BOX. NARA TEA MILK
COME ON, RAKUICHI! WHAT HAPPENED TO PRACTICE!?
.....
I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO DO ANYTHING, RAKUICHI...
DID YOU LIE TO ME AGAIN?
.....

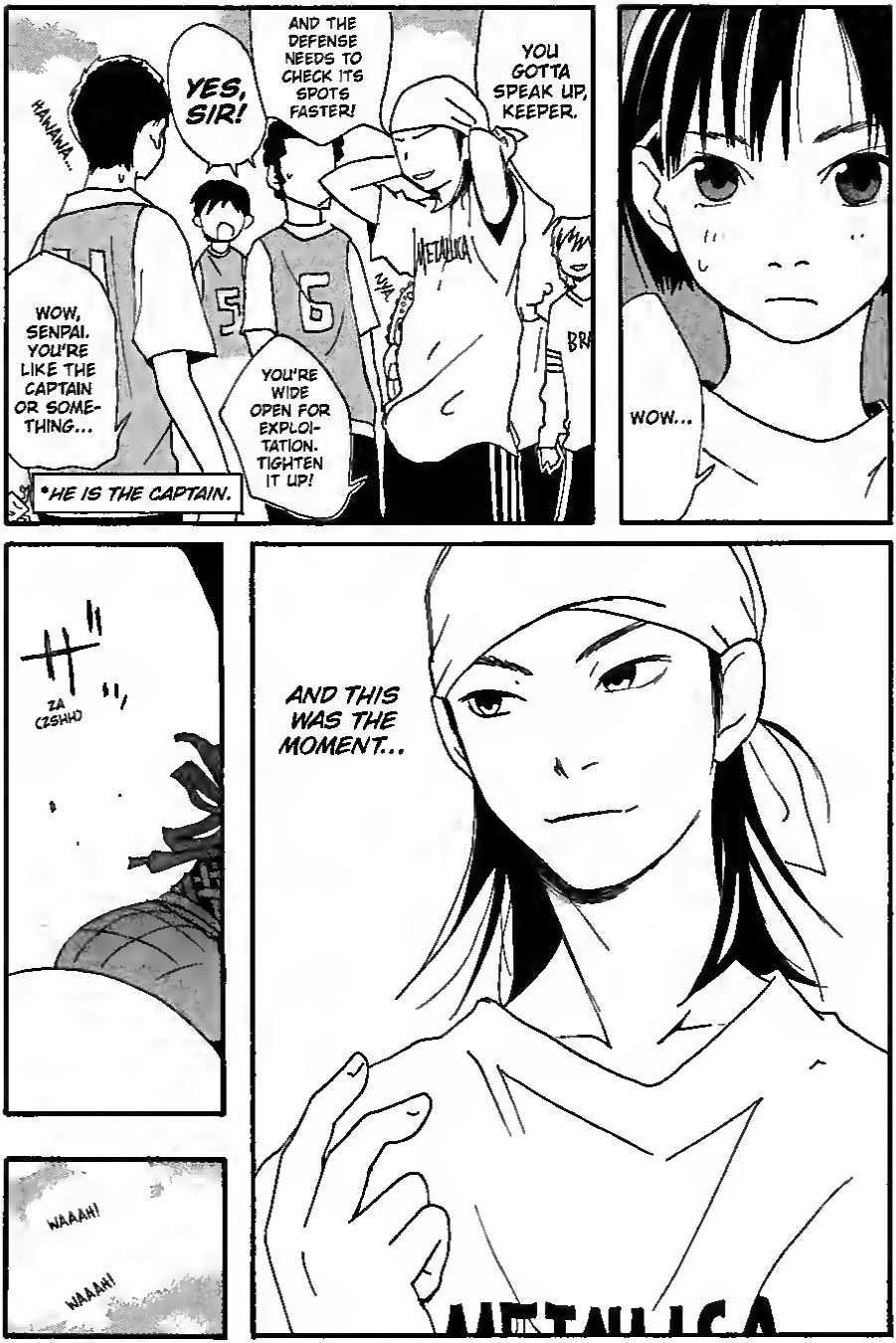
DUMBASS!
NOW, TALK ABOUT HARSH.
BATAN (SLAM)
...BUT IF YOU LOSE SOCCER, YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING LEFT IN YOUR LIFE!!
GAAAN (SHOCK)
HA-HA-HA. YOU'RE PRETTY COOL, KNOW THAT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M...
HYU (WHOOSH)
YOU STAND UP TO SOME CRUEL TREATMENT.
OH, SHUT UP...



SFX: TSUN (POKE)

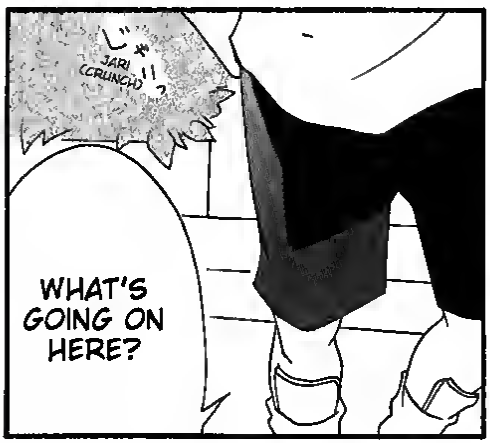

SIGN: STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICE
I NEED TO GET GOING FOR TEAM PRACTICE. SEE YOU LATER!
AWW.
TON (TAP)
トン
TON
トン
OKAAAAY! X
生徒会室
OKAY.
GRAFFITI: LOVE AZUCHI-KUN
THAT AFTERNOON ...
PASHI (THWAP)
METALUKA
ZAWA (MURMUR)

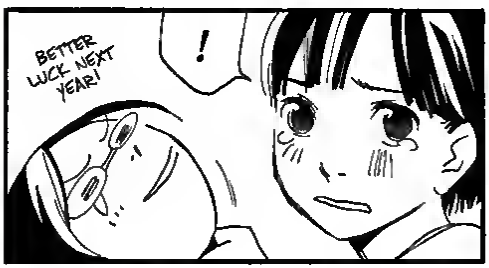

...I SAW MATSURI-SENPAI TAKING PRACTICE SERIOUSLY.
...FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE...
METALLICA
PASHI (THWUP)
HOLY CRAP!!
DID THAT SINK?
FOR REAL?
WHEW!
GOKURI (GULP)
ゴ"ッ
THAT HAD TO BE A 30-YARD SHOT!!
PIRELLI
SU (SHK)
!!?

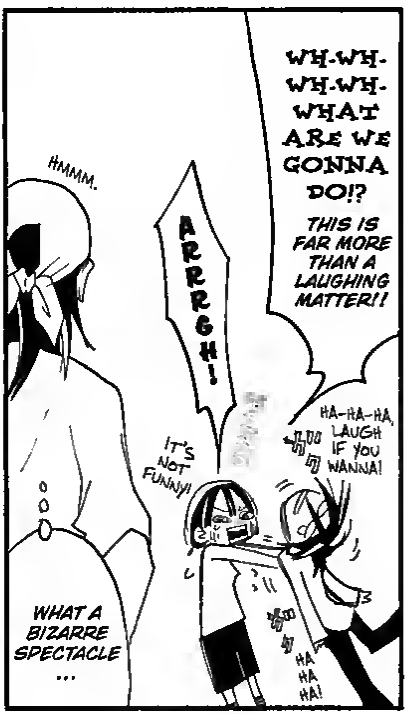

HAHAHA...
YES, SIR!
AND THE DEFENSE NEEDS TO CHECK ITS SPOTS FASTER!
YOU GOTTA SPEAK UP, KEEPER.
METALLICA
WOW, SENPAI. YOU'RE LIKE THE CAPTAIN OR SOMETHING...
YOU'RE WIDE OPEN FOR EXPLOITATION. TIGHTEN IT UP!
*HE IS THE CAPTAIN.
WOW...
ZA (ZSHH)
AND THIS WAS THE MOMENT...
METALLICA
WAAAH!
WAAAH!

I GUESS MATSURI-SENPAI MIGHT BE A BIT COOL TOO...
MAYBE, JUST MAYBE
SNUT.
KAA (BLUSH)
SFX: FUKU (POKE)
STRANGE TO SEE MATSURI TAKING ANYTHING SERIOUSLY.
POKIN (CLUNK)
BUT SO UNNATU-RAL...
AH, SENSEI!
ASE (SWEAT)
ASE
THIS IS AN IMPOSSIBLE SIGHT!
WELL, AT LEAST HE'S SERIOUS ABOUT HELPING THE CLUB. WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT, SENSEI?

HUH?
I CAN'T WAIT FOR OUR NEXT MATCH!
EH HE!
I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE ABOUT THAT.
HMPH!
YAH!
AND IF RAKUICHI SHOWED UP FOR GOOD, WE'D HAVE A PRETTY SOLID FOUNDATION, I THINK.
...I ACTUALLY FORGOT TO SUBMIT THE TOURNAMENT APPLICATION...
YOU SEE...
OHHH, I SEE...
IT'S GOING THAT WAY!
WAAAH!
DA DOSHI







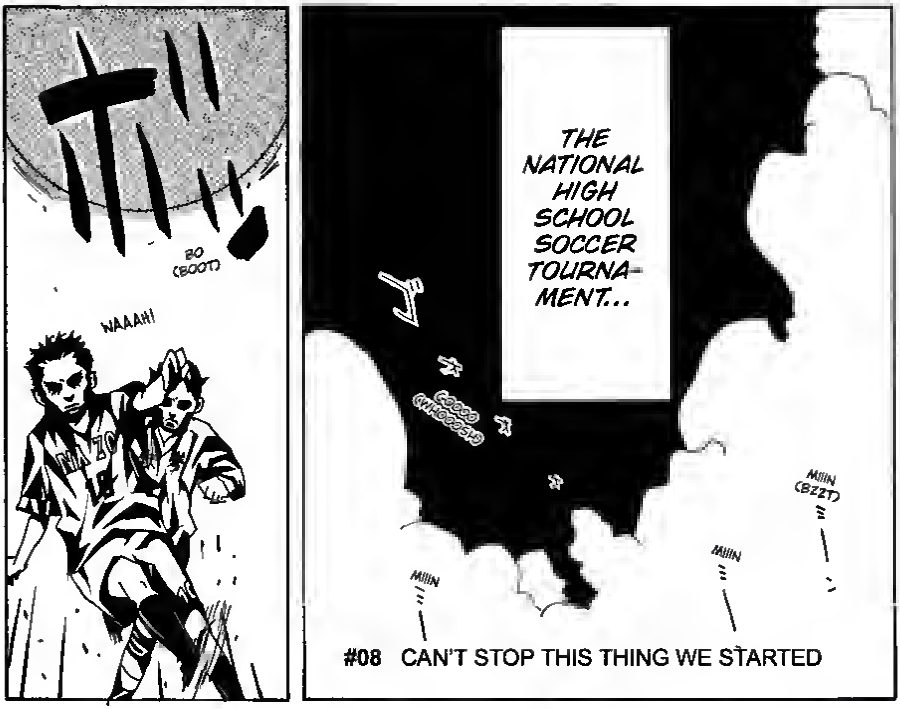
SFX. GAKU (SHAKE) GAKU

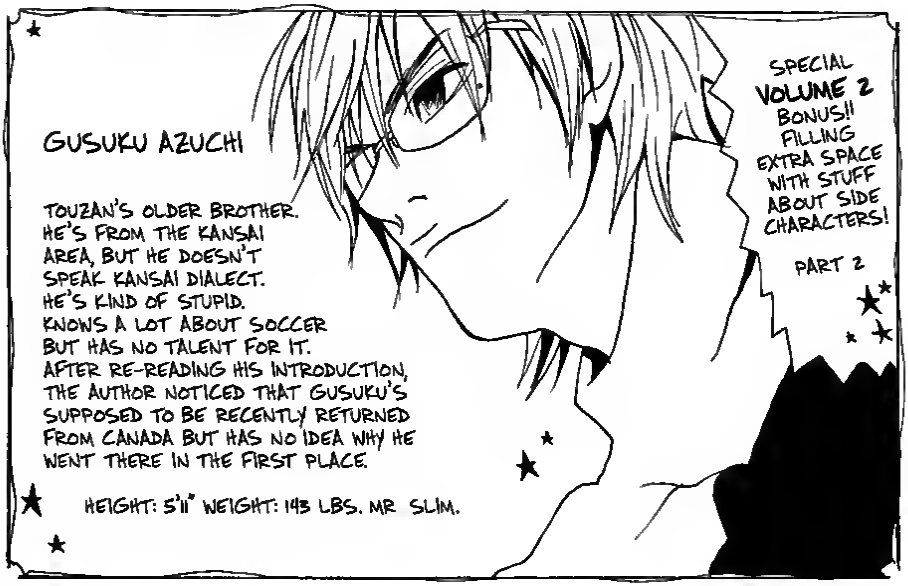
OH, THAT?
Y-YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE THIS! BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...AND NOW WE'RE SCREWED!
PII (SHRIEK)
AZUCHI-SEN-PAAAI!
GRRR!
EH HE HE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS BITCH! THIS STUPID BITCH!
I FIGURED YOU'D FORGET ALL ABOUT IT, SO I MADE SURE TO HANDLE THE PAPERWORK AGES AGO.
HERE.
POFU (BOP)

I WUV YOU.
GYU! (SQUEEZE)
DO ME
SENPAI...
DOKI (BADMP)
SFX: KYUUN (TWINGE)
SENPAI.
AZUCHI!
WELL, I'M IN MY THIRD AND FINAL YEAR OF SCHOOL...
KORO (ROLL)
HMM...
STRANGE TO SEE YOU SO INVESTED IN THIS. WHAT'S UP?

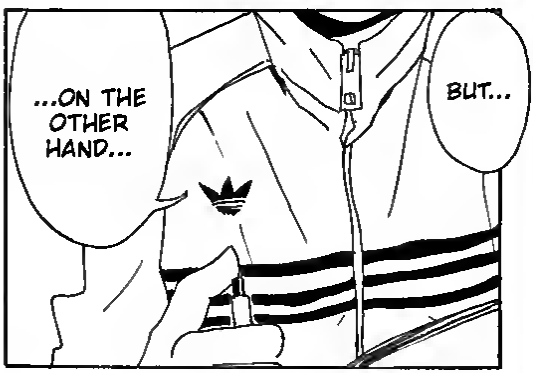
MATSURI-SENPAI...
...SO I FIGURE I MIGHT AS WELL TAKE MY VERY LAST TOURNAMENT SERIOUSLY...
METALLICA
IT'LL BE MY FINAL CHANCE TO PLAY WITH THIS TEAM.
MATSURI-SENPAI!
HEH HEH. DON'T MAKE ME BLUSH...
AND MY FINAL CHANCE TO MAKE MEMORIES WITH YOU GUYS...
RAKUICHI, MEANWHILE...
COME ON, GANG! LET'S RUN OFF INTO THE SUNSET!!
YEAH!
I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH B.S.!!
I CAN PRACTICALLY SMELL THE STENCH OF IT...
WHAT A LOAD OF CRAP
EVERYONES' HEARTS IN UNISON!

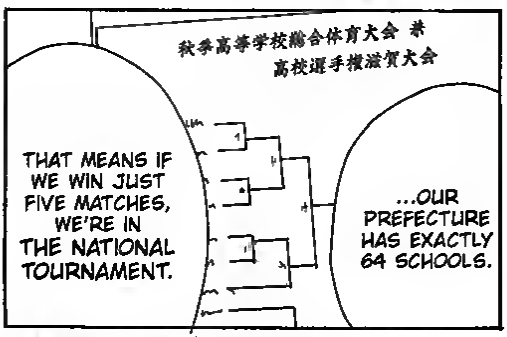
COAT: NURSE'S OFFICE
HUH? IS SOMEONE IN THE OTHER BED?
WHAT? THERE SHOULDN'T BE...
HE'S IN HERE A LOT
.....
HMMM...
WHY DO I ALWAYS WAKE UP IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE?
SIGN: NURSE'S OFFICE
保健室
AH!
LET'S SEE.
ニノヤ
SHA (SHK)
*NEW COACH GUSUKU, STILL KNOCKED OUT BY THE BALL MAIKO KICKED IN CHAPTER 6.
...THE PRELIMI-NARIES BEGAN!!
AND THEN ...
I TOTALLY FORGOT!!
ZUGYOOO (GYAACK)
ズギョー
OH MY!
WHO'S THAT?
IS HE DEAD?


BO (BOOT)
WAAAH!
THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TOURNA-MENT...
GOOOO (WHOOOSH)
MIIIN (BZZT)
MIIIN
MIIIN
#08 CAN'T STOP THIS THING WE STARTED


GUSUKU AZUCHI
TOUZAN'S OLDER BROTHER.
HE'S FROM THE KANSAI AREA, BUT HE DOESN'T SPEAK KANSAI DIALECT.
HE'S KIND OF STUPID.
KNOWS A LOT ABOUT SOCCER BUT HAS NO TALENT FOR IT.
AFTER RE-READING HIS INTRODUCTION, THE AUTHOR NOTICED THAT GUSUKU'S SUPPOSED TO BE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM CANADA BUT HAS NO IDEA WHY HE WENT THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HEIGHT: 5'11" WEIGHT: 143 LBS. MR SLIM.
SPECIAL VOLUME 2 BONUS!! FILLING EXTRA SPACE WITH STUFF ABOUT SIDE CHARACTERS!
PART 2

PRIMARY PRELIMS INVOLVE SEVERAL DIVISIONS THAT HOLD THEIR OWN TOURNAMENTS (ABOUT FOUR ROUNDS) IN THE MIDSUMMER HEAT, AND THE WINNING SCHOOLS GET TO STAMP THEIR TICKETS TO THE SECONDARY PRELIMS (ANOTHER FOUR OR FIVE ROUNDS) IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER.
MIIIN
NAAAH!
NAAAH!
MIIIN (BZZZT)
MIIIN
MIIIN
HOWEVER, IN REGIONS WHERE THERE ARE TWO OR THREE HUNDRED SCHOOLS, THE PRELIMINARY COMPETITION HAS TO BEGIN IN JULY OR AUGUST (FOR A "WINTER" TOURNAMENT).




秋季高等学校総合体育大会 兼
高校選手権滋賀大会
THAT MEANS IF WE WIN JUST FIVE MATCHES, WE'RE IN THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT.
...OUR PREFECTURE HAS EXACTLY 64 SCHOOLS.

IN SHORT, IT'S A HELL OF A SLOG.

AND HOT.

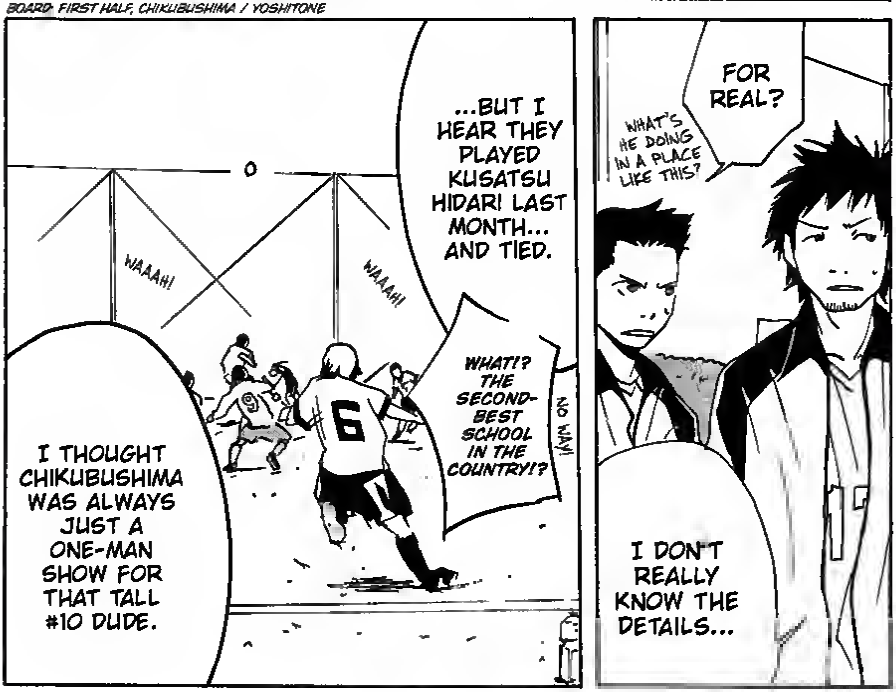
CHART: AUTUMN GENERAL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS COMPETITION AND SHIGA PREFECTURE HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP

BUT THERE'S NO SEEDING, AND IF YOU GET LUCKY DURING THE LOTTERY, YOU CAN GO NATIONAL IN JUST FOUR MATCHES!!
WELL, NOTHING COMES EASY.
WOULDN'T YOU CALL THIS A MAJOR ADVANTAGE FOR US?
THIS IS WHY WE NEVER HAVE GREAT TEAMS, THOUGH.
LONG LIVE THE STICKS!!
ずびし!
ZUBISHI! (JAB)
HOKKAIDO
THE DOWNSIDE OF CENTRALIZED POWER?
PLUS WE GET TO START PLAYING IN LATE OCTOBER
IN YOUR FACE, HIGH-POPULATION-DENSITY AREAS!!
TO (THUD)

BASHI (BWAP)
AAH!
LONG FIFTY!!
IT'S #11 AGAIN!!
WHOA!
DO (OMM)
#11
PASHI (SMACK)
14

PASA (PTHUP)
BASHI (BSHH)
AH!
CHIKUSHIMA
16
THAT MAKES FOUR!!
RAKU-ICHI!
YESSS!!!

BOARD: FIRST HALF, CHIKUBUSHIMA / YOSHITONE

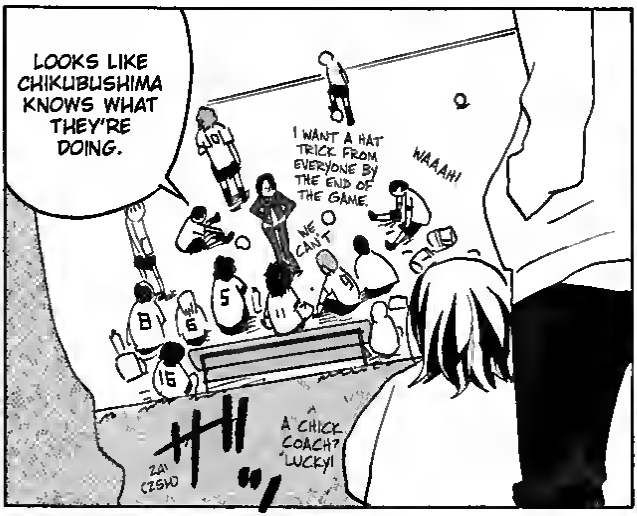

0
NAAAH!
NAAAH!
...BUT I HEAR THEY PLAYED KUSATSU HIDARI LAST MONTH... AND TIED.
WHAT!? THE SECOND-BEST SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY!?
NO WAY!
I THOUGHT CHIKUBUSHIMA WAS ALWAYS JUST A ONE-MAN SHOW FOR THAT TALL #10 DUDE.
FOR REAL?
WHAT'S HE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW THE DETAILS...

PRAISE ME, YOU LACKEYS.
PRAISE MY SUPERHUMAN PLAY! PRAISE MY VERY EXISTENCE!!
16
THIS IS A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CHIKU-BUSHIMA TEAM WE'RE SEEIN'...
HEH HEH HEH...
NICE SHOT!
SOON I WILL BE IN YOUR POSITION! THEN WE'LL SEE WHO'S BOSS!
?
HMPH. ★ HOW COULD I POSSIBLY FAIL AT SOMETHING SO EASY?
YOU'RE ON A ROLL, NAGAHAMA.
MEANWHILE, THE MATCH CONTINUED ...

BASH (THUD)
GASHAN (CRASHANK)
WHOAAA!
TALK ABOUT POWER!
KYAAA! KYAAA! AZUCHI-KUUN!
TCH.
WOW!
PASA (THWAP)
A LOOP SHOT!?
KILL ME NOW!
AZUCHI-SENPAI HAS A HAT TRICK TOO!!
SUCH GRACE!
SCORING
:03 AZUCHI
:05 NAGAHAMA
:17 NAGAHAMA
:20 NAGAHAMA
:25 AZUCHI
:30 AZUCHI
NIYA (SMIRK)
KYAAA! LOOK OVER HERE AZUCHI-KUN!
KYA!
WHAT A MESS!
EVEN THE OTHER SCHOOL'S GIRLS ARE CHEERING FOR HIM!
16
GAH!!
JERK!

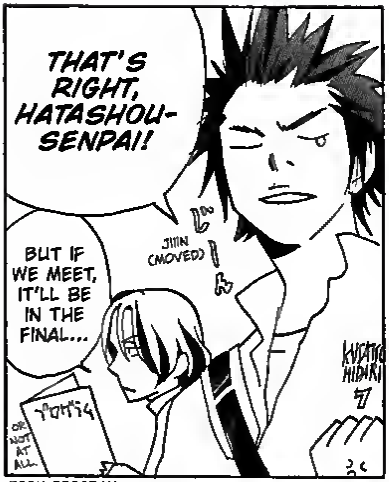
!
TA (TAK)
DAMN! YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! (WITH WHAT?)
DA (PASH)
PASS IT TO ME! GIVE ME THE BALL!!
OVER ...
GIVE IT!
YES!
ZUDON (KABOOM)
BAHYU (ZWOOM)
... HERE ...
AHH!

THAT'S CRAZY!!
THE GOAL-KEEPER COULDN'T EVEN MOVE A STEP!!
HEH HEH.
BRAVO!
THAT WAS A STRAIGHT-UP THIRTY-YARD BOMB!!
CHIKUBUSHIMA
11
WHO IS THIS GUY?
GOOD (WOOOOD)
KYAAA!
OTHER SCHOOL'S STUDENTS
WOOH
WE DON'T HAVE TO LIFT A FINGER!
DAAAAMN! LOOK AT MATSURI-SENPAI!!
WHAT WAS THAT?
ARE THEY DOING THIS BECAUSE OF MY HAT TRICK?
!!
DAMN!
NICE WORK OUT THERE!
LOOKING GOOD, TEAM.
FIRST HALF IS OVER!!
PII (TWEE)
WAAAH!
ZURI!! (SLIIIDE)
WELL, I'M NOT GONNA BE UPSTAGED!!
I'LL BUST OUT A SANTANA TURN OR SOMETHING.

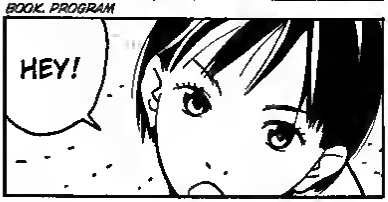

LOOKS LIKE CHIKUBUSHIMA KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE DOING.
I WANT A HAT TRICK FROM EVERYONE BY THE END OF THE GAME.
WAAAH!
WE CAN'T
A CHICK COACH? LUCKY!
ZAI CZSHO

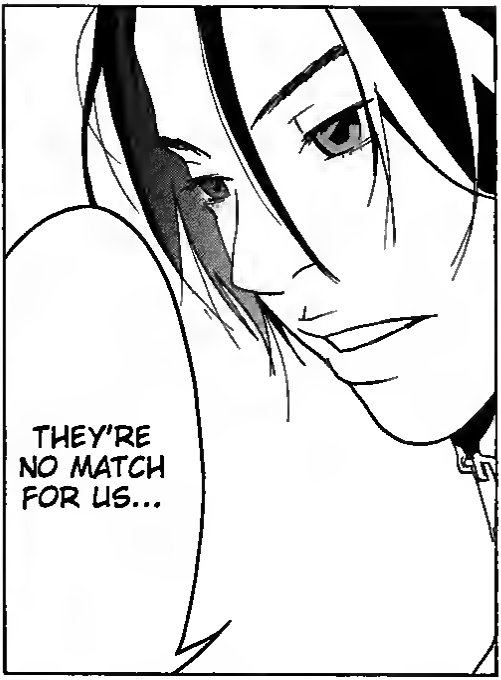
BOARD: FIRST HALF, SECOND HALF, TOTAL, CHIKUBUSHIMA

ACTUALLY, MORE THAN AZUCHI OR THAT KID WHO WENT TO ITALY...
IF WE WERE PLAYING THAT SORRY TEAM, WE'D BE WIPING THE FLOOR WITH 'EM!
KEH!
WIPING THE FLOOR?
KUSATSU HIKARI 77
WHERE'D ALL THIS MOTIVATION COME FROM?
NOWHERE
...THE ONE TO WATCH OUT FOR IS THAT #11 IN THE MIDDLE. HE'S THE HEART OF CHIKUBUSHIMA'S TEAM...
...DOESN'T MATTER IF THEY HAVE ONE GOOD PLAYER. A SOCCER TEAM HAS ELEVEN PEOPLE ON IT.
BUT, YOU KNOW ...
KUSATSU HIKARI 10
UPSY-DAISY.
PHOTO
THAT'S RIGHT, SENPAI! IT WAS ONLY WHEN THE LONG-HAIRED DUDE CAME IN DURING OUR PRACTICE MATCH THAT WE LOST CONTROL OF THE GAME!!
HEY, LOOK!
YEAH, YEAH.
THE YOUTH OLYMPICS CONTENDER?
ISN'T THAT HATASHOU-SAN FROM KUSATSU HIDARI?



BOOK. PROGRAM





NEXT TIME, WE'LL SETTLE THIS SCORE FOR GOOD, NAGAHAMA...
HMPH!
SENSEI, THAT'S NOT VERY MATURE OF YOU...
I'LL BUST YOUR HEAD IN, PUD!
YOU WANNA RUMBLE, TWERP!?
AND WHAT'S THAT LITTLE BRAT STARING AT US FOR!?

SIGN. KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH FIELD

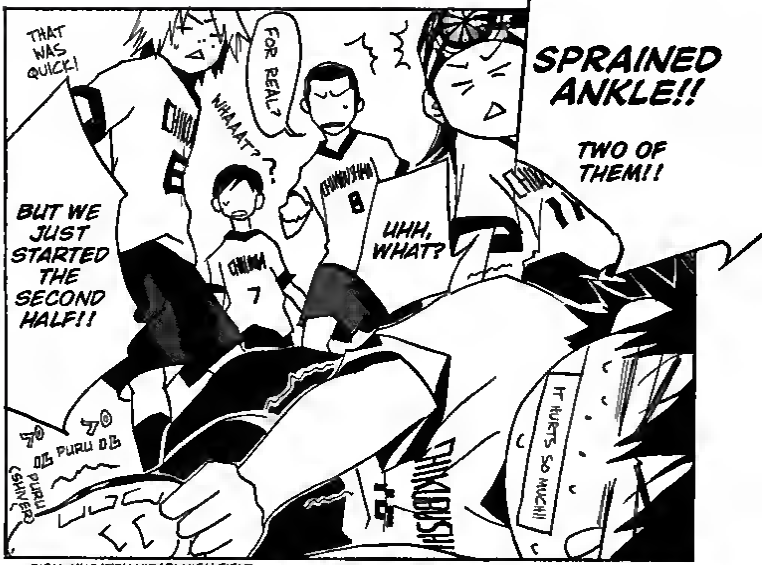
NITAA (SMIRK)
THIS WILL MAKE FOR A FANTASTIC ARTICLE...
UFU FU!
MAIKO-SENPAI TOO!?
GAAN (SHOCK)!
DON (BAM)
HEY, WHEN DID HE GET HERE? IN FACT...
GASP!
WHO ARE YOU?
BIKU (FLINCH)
JUST WHO IS THIS HIKIYAMA FELLOW, ANYWAY? HE'S GOT FAR MORE TALENT THAN ANY HIGH SCHOOLER...
BAN (BANG)
NEW TEAM COACH, GUSUKU
ANY-HOW, HERE COMES THE SECOND HALF!
PII (TWEET)
BOOK: JOURNALISM, MAIKO, DETECTIVE FILES, NIGHT SCOOP
YOUR LITTLE FRIEND, I MEAN.
...
HE'S PRETTY GOOD.
DOKI DOKI
EH?
KURU (SPIN)
DOKI (BADUMP)
WAH!
WAE

NEMBUSHWA
KURU (SPIN)
MORE!
HYO! (ZIP)
CHUKI
ZUZAA (SLIIIIDE)
YES!
TCH!
...MORE!
NEED TO STAND OUT...
NBA (ZWOOSH)
HUH?
ZUZAA
CHUKI
PYUU (WHEEE)
GOT YER BALL!!
AND THEN...
...I'LL BE THE HERO!!
GA (KICK)

SU (SSK)
!!
BA (ZWIP)
HEH!
SPENT TOO MUCH TIME WITH THE BALL.
ZUSHA (THWUD)
OW!
AZU-CHI!
PASHI (SNAK)
BA
BO (BOOT)
DAH!
BASU (ZOOSH)

!
DOSARI (KTHUD)
GUSHA (CRUMPLE)
OH, SHUT UP!
YOU HOG THE BALL TOO MUCH
NEXT TIME I'LL BE THE ONE TO...
UGH!
PIKI (TWINGE)
KEH KEH
NICE PASS.
.....
.....
KUAH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
HURTS!!
...NNNNO
!!
RAKU-ICHI!?
NO!
AH!
WHAT IS IT!?
RAKU-ICHI...
KUH...
PURU
HEY, NAGA-HAMA!
WHAT'S WRONG!?
PURU
YOU OKAY!?
PURU (SHIVER)

SFX. GABIIIIN (BOINGGG)



SIGN. KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH FIELD

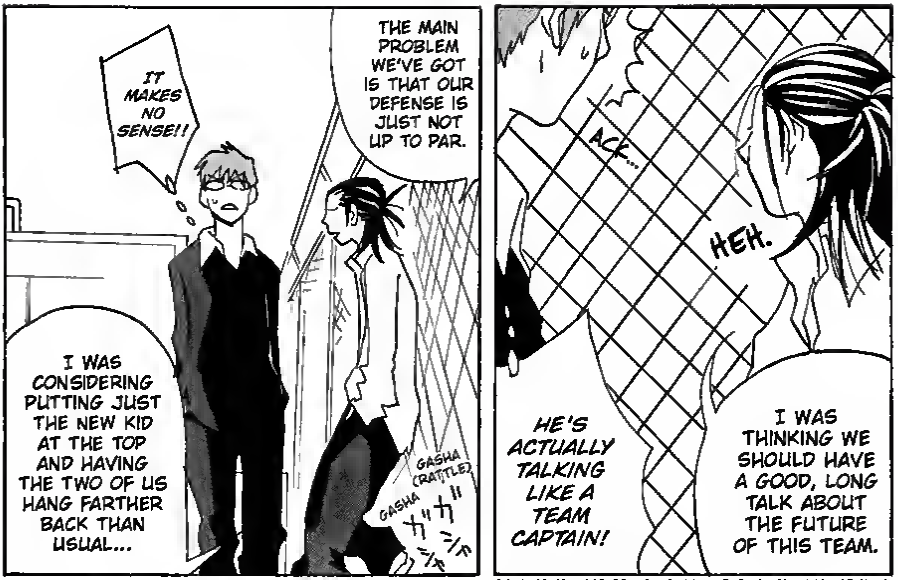
...WERE OFFSET ONLY BY YOUKAICHI'S OWN GOAL, LEADING CHIKUBUSHIMA TO CRUISE THROUGH THE FIRST ROUND WITH A 14-1 THRASHING!!
YOU UNGRATEFUL CHILD! GRRR!
I DEED IT, DADDY!
YOU HIT A HOME RUN TOMORROW!
NAH!
I'M SORRY!
CHIKUBUSHIMA
...AZUCHI'S SECOND HAT TRICK, MATSURI'S DIRECT FREE KICK, PLUS GOALS BY JUNIOR STUDENT SETA (SHAVED HEAD) AND BRAZILIAN-BORN ANTONIO TAGA (AFRO)...

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! I SCORED AN OWN GOAL!
IT DOESN'T COUNT!
NAH, THE OTHER TEAM WAS TOO WEAK.
IT WAS LIKE EVERYONE SCORED!
HEY, RAKU-ICHI...
WELL, THAT WAS EASY.
.....
NAAAH!
NAAAH!
HEE HEE HEE!
DID YOU HAVE FUN?
.....
.....
YEAH.

I'M GLAD. ☆
トコ TOKO
トコ (PLOD) TOKO
FUN ENOUGH...
GOOD.
BRASIL
KAA (CAW)
KAA
IT'S, UH... LEGAL TENDER, RIGHT?
..... NO IDEA.
SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH, HE PAID BACK THE AMOUNT IN FULL THE OTHER DAY...
ALL OF IT.
FOR REAL?
NO WAY!
OH, BY THE WAY, DID MATSURI-SENPAI PAY YOU BACK FOR THE VEHICLE HE CRASHED?

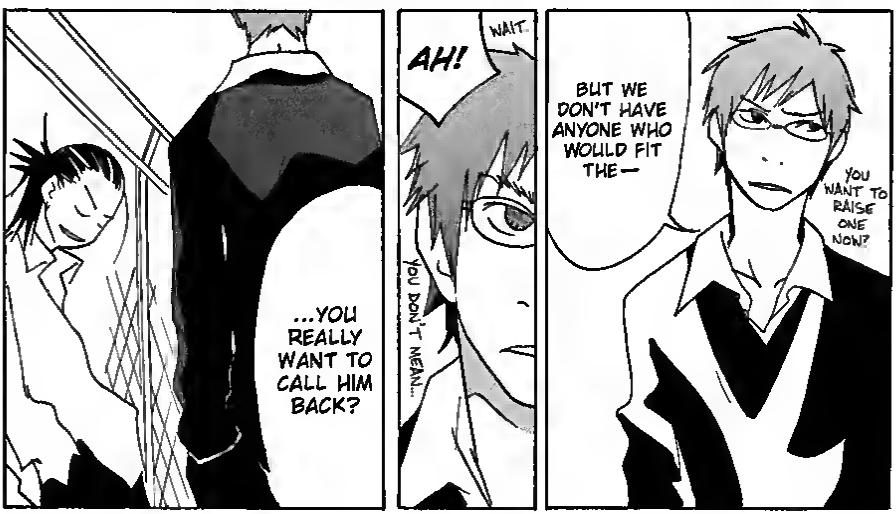
GISHI (CREAK)
ZAZA
ZAZA (WHOOSH)
KAA
KAA
I APOLOGIZE FOR THE WAIT, HIKIYAMA-KUN.
GASA (RUSTLE)
UNDER-STOOD.
I HOPE THINGS WILL END AS FORTU-ITOUSLY NEXT TIME.
HELLO, I'M THE PRINCIPAL.
HERE IS WHAT YOU'VE EARNED TODAY.
SUCHA (CHIKK)

AZUCHI, YOU HAVE A VISITOR!
WHITE. BLACK. SILVER. PINK. YELLOW... HMM.
SHOULD I CHANGE MY HAIR COLOR?
BOOO (DAZED)
KON (DONG)
KAN (DANG)
KIN (DING)
2-1
KON
THE NEXT DAY.
MORNING
'SUP?
COVERED WITH LADIES, I SEE
HEY.
OH, IT'S JUST YOU.
LET'S HANG OUT TODAY, MATSURI-SENPAI!
KYA!
YEAH, YEAH
WE SAW YOUR GAME YESTERDAY
!
KINDA STRANGE TO SEE YOU. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
KASHAN (CLANK)
YO.

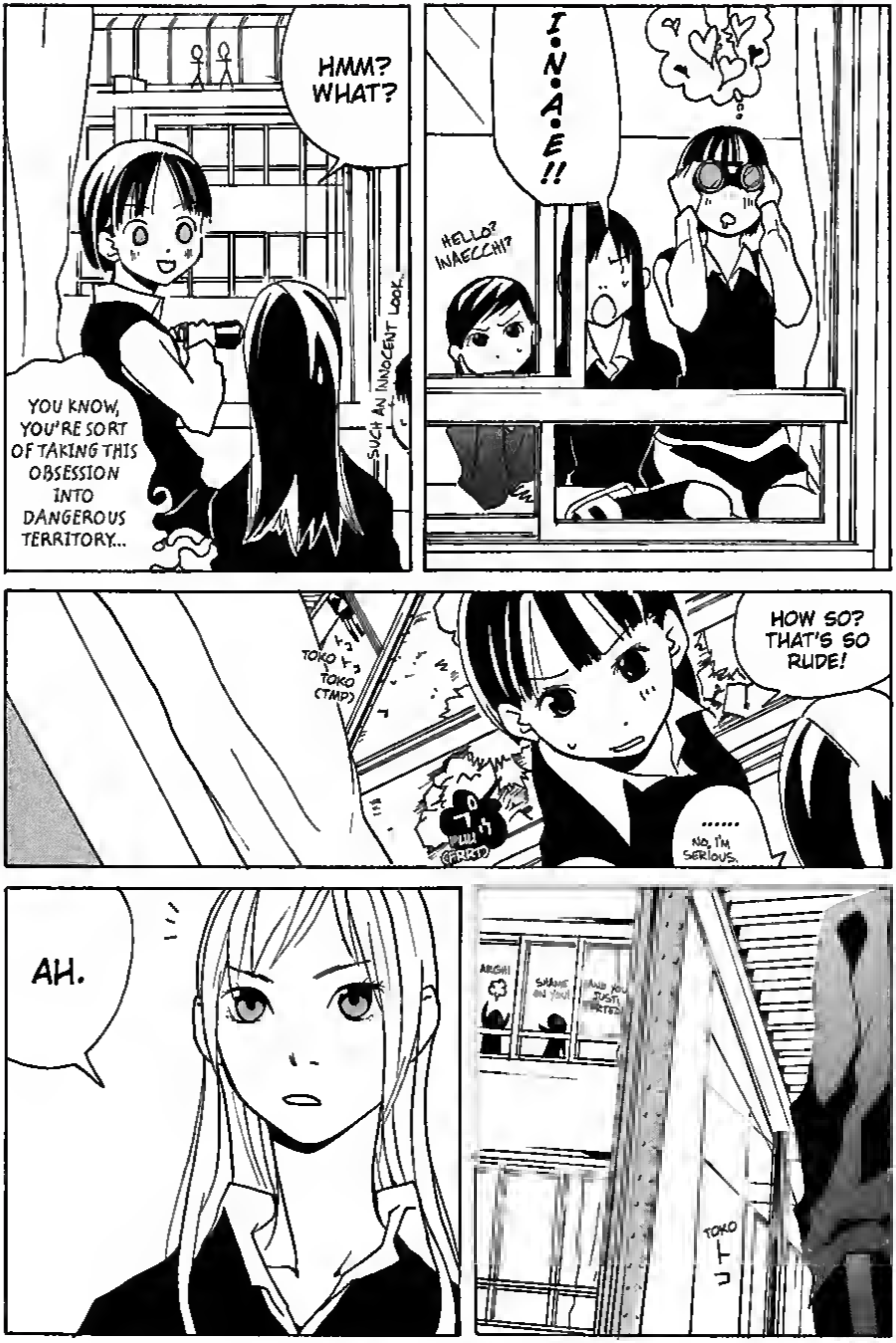

THE MAIN PROBLEM WE'VE GOT IS THAT OUR DEFENSE IS JUST NOT UP TO PAR.
IT MAKES NO SENSE!!
I WAS CONSIDERING PUTTING JUST THE NEW KID AT THE TOP AND HAVING THE TWO OF US HANG FARTHER BACK THAN USUAL...
GASHA (RATTLE)
GASHA
ACK...
HEH.
I WAS THINKING WE SHOULD HAVE A GOOD, LONG TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THIS TEAM.
HE'S ACTUALLY TALKING LIKE A TEAM CAPTAIN!

*I HATE TO KEEP BRINGING THIS UP, BUT HE'S THE CAPTAIN!

...IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HAVE A DEFENSIVE LEADER OF SOME KIND!
...BUT THAT JUST MAKES OUR OFFENSE WEAKER OVERALL. AND WHEN WE PLAY THE REALLY TOUGH SCHOOLS...

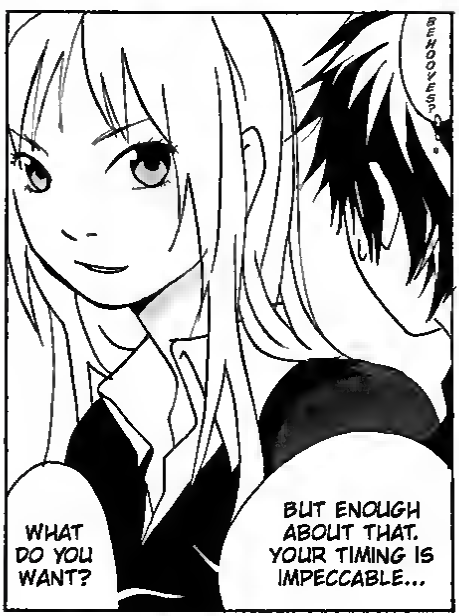


YOU GOT IT.
...YOU REALIZE HE HASN'T EVEN BEEN COMING TO SCHOOL, MUCH LESS PRACTICE?
WHAT?
OKAY. BUT...
THE DITCHING SCUMBAG..
LOOK WHO'S TALKING!
INAE.
HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT FOR MONTHS.
GAAAH!
INAE!


HMM? WHAT?
SUCH AN INNOCENT LOOK.
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE SORT OF TAKING THIS OBSESSION INTO DANGEROUS TERRITORY...
I.N.A.E!!
HELLO? INAECCHI?
HOW SO? THAT'S SO RUDE!
TOKO トコ TOKO (TMP)
FRISK
..... NO, I'M SERIOUS.
AH.
ARGH!
SHAME ON YOU!
HAVE YOU JUST PEED?
TOKO
トコ

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE GUY WHO SPRAINED HIS ANKLES YESTERDAY.
PFFFT
UMM, SHUT UP... PLEASE.
WHY DO I ALWAYS RUN INTO HER?

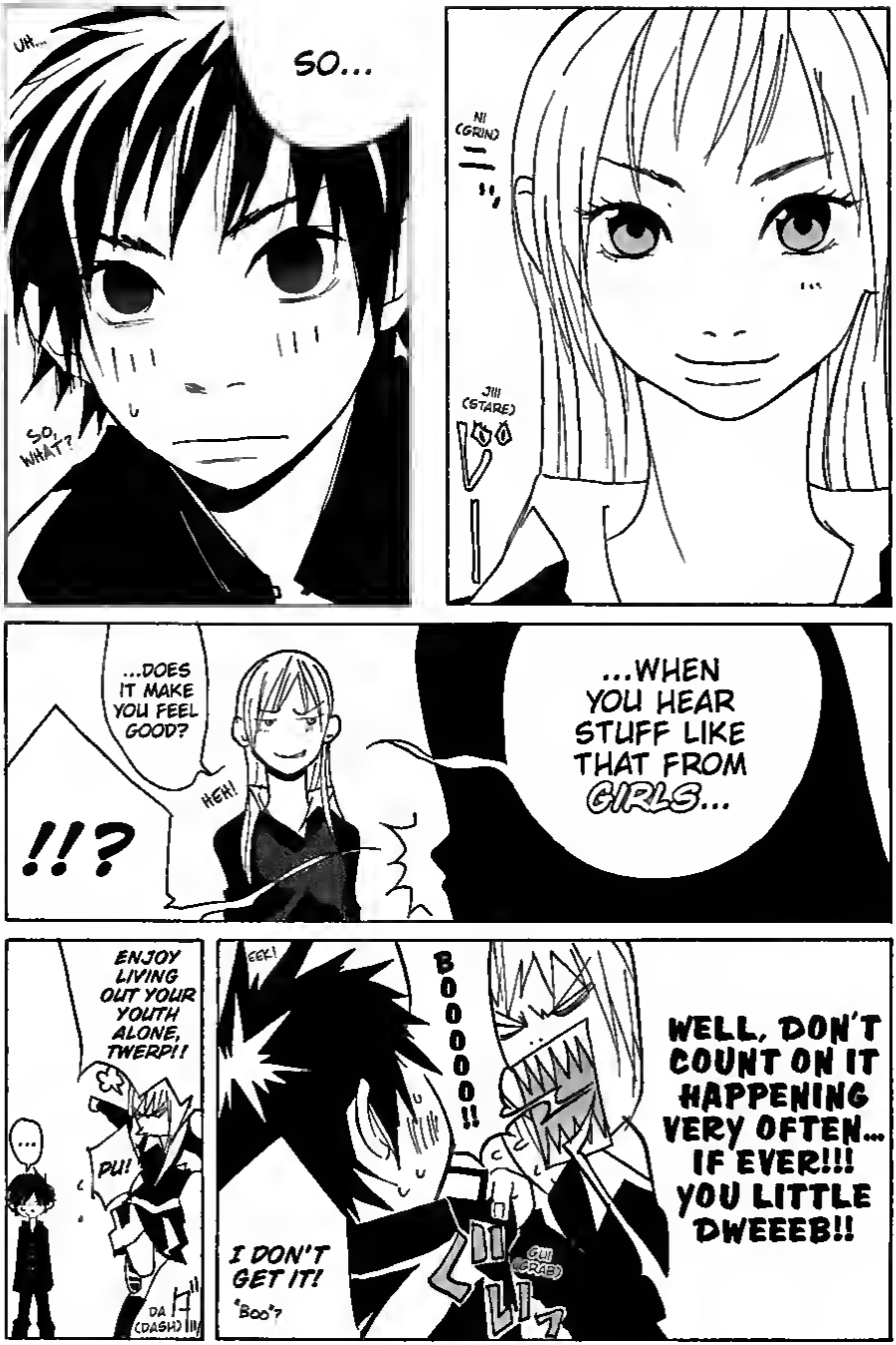
ACK!

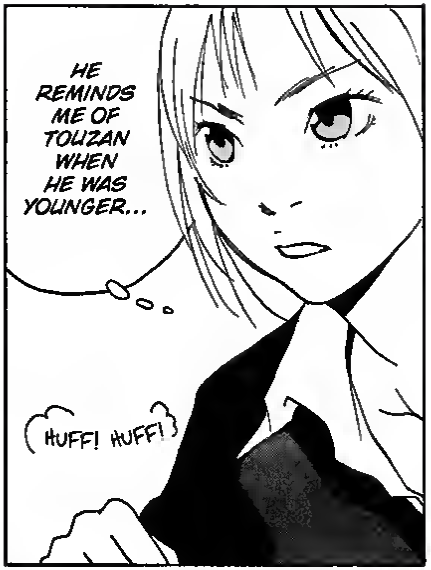

BEHOOVES?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
BUT ENOUGH ABOUT THAT. YOUR TIMING IS IMPECCABLE...

WHY WERE YOU AT THE FIELD YESTERDAY, ANYWAY?
BECAUSE I'M IN THE JOURNALISM CLUB! AS A MEDIA-TYPE CHARACTER, IT BEHOOVES ME TO BE PRESENT!!

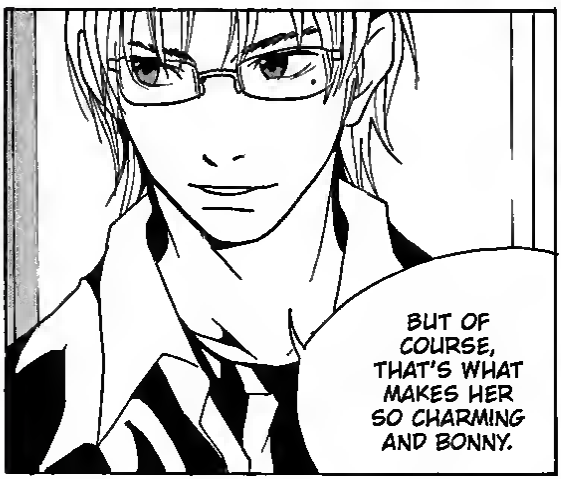
LEND ME 100 YEN.
HELL, JUST GIVE IT TO ME
UGH.
SHE'S MOOCHING MONEY.
HA HA HA.
SORRY, PAL.
NOT A SINGLE YEN ON ME.
GREAT. WHAT GOOD ARE YOU?
BAH!
GRRR...
YOU DISGUST ME. BEGONE!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY EITHER!!
SUCH VILE SLANDER!
WHAT A WASTE OF TIME.
FIRST YOU CAN'T LAST AN ENTIRE GAME, THEN YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE 100 YEN!
TSK!
HAA (SIGH)
SCHLISSL
WHICH ONE DO I WANT?
BISHI (SMACK)
GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO BUY MY OWN.
IF YOU HAVE YOUR OWN MONEY, WHY DID YOU ASK ME!?
green milk tea

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT SOCCER.
ANY-WAY...
THAT MAKES YOU PRETTY COOL...
TON (TAP)
...KIDDO. ★
DOKKINCHO (BABOINK)


UH...
SO...
SO, WHAT?
NI (GRIN)
JIII (STARE)
...WHEN YOU HEAR STUFF LIKE THAT FROM GIRLS...
!!?
HEH!
...DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD?
ENJOY LIVING OUT YOUR YOUTH ALONE, TWERP!!
PU!
DA (DASH)
...
EEK!
BOOOOO!!
GUI (GRAB)
I DON'T GET IT!
'BOO'?
WELL, DON'T COUNT ON IT HAPPENING VERY OFTEN... IF EVER!!! YOU LITTLE DWEEEB!!


HE REMINDS ME OF TOUZAN WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER...
HUFF! HUFF!

SERIOUSLY, WHAT IS UP WITH HER?
AND SHE RUNS OFF AGAIN..


BUT OF COURSE, THAT'S WHAT MAKES HER SO CHARMING AND BONNY.

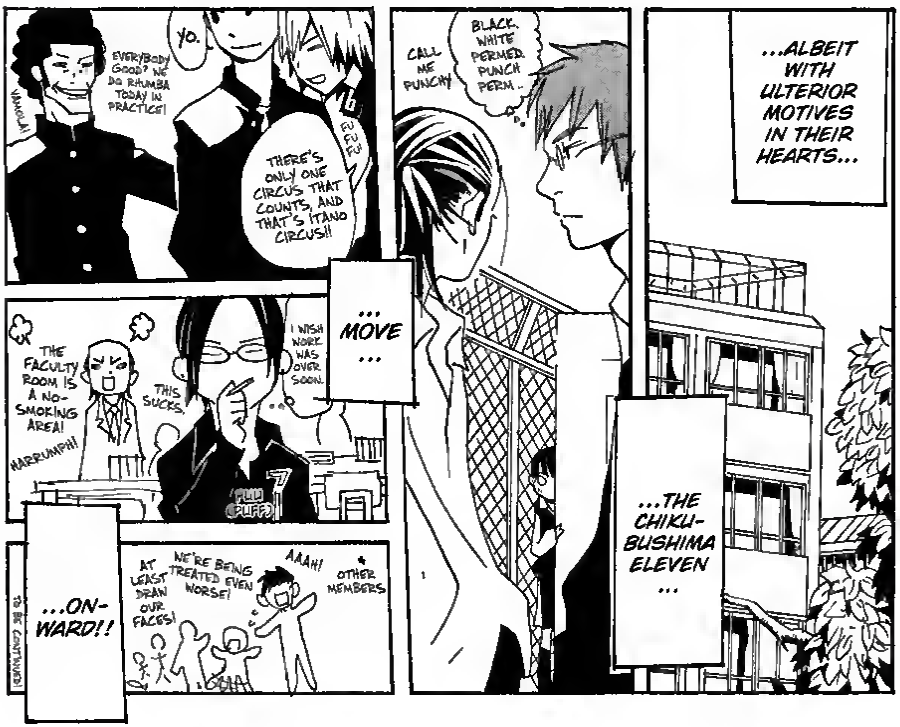
HEH.
WHO'S THAT!?
AS ALWAYS, SHE JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW TO EXPRESS HER EMOTIONS...

RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA-KUN.
"BONNY" WHAT A NERVE!
DON'T YOU AGREE?

THAT'S RIGHT. I HAVEN'T BEEN FORMALLY ANNOUNCED TO THE TEAM YET...
KURU
KURU
KURU (TWIRL)
PETAN (FLOP)
WAAA
FREAKS ... ALL OF YOU.
GAAN (SHOCK)
NICE PANTS, WEIRDO...
OKAY, BUT WHO ARE YOU?
FUU (SIGH)
ANYHOW ...
FORGET THESE IDIOTS...
MESO (WEEP)
MESO
GUSU (SOB)
GUSU
NEXT TIME...
...IT'S ON!!

I'M GONNA STAND OUT MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE ON THE FIELD!!
HOO HOO HAH!
HMPH!
GU CCLENCH
HEY!
MY GOODNESS!
OH!
PASSING BY
RAKUICHI, LOOKING MOTIVATED!

AND THUS...


YO.
EVERYBODY GOOD? WE DO RUMBA TODAY IN PRACTICE!
UHHUH!
GU GU GU
THERE'S ONLY ONE CIRCUS THAT COUNTS, AND THAT'S ITANO CIRCUS!!
CALL ME PUNCHY
BLACK, WHITE PERMED PUNCH PERM..
...ALBEIT WITH ULTERIOR MOTIVES IN THEIR HEARTS...
...MOVE...
THE FACULTY ROOM IS A NO-SMOKING AREA!
HARRUMPH!
THIS SUCKS.
I WISH WORK WAS OVER SOON.
PUFF PUFF
...THE CHIKU-BUSHIMA ELEVEN...
...ON-WARD!!
AT LEAST DRAIN OUR FACES!
WE'RE BEING TREATED EVEN WORSE!
AAAH!
OTHER MEMBERS
©JBC CONTENTS

#09 BLACK CLOUD, BLUE SKY

TA (TMP)
THAT'S FAST!
THAT'S REALLY FAST!!
F-FIVE-POINT-SEVEN!?
HUH!?
DWAAAH!?

PAKON
SHAPE UP, TURD!
HWA-CHA!
OUCH!
AMAZING-AY, AKUICHI-RAY!
BECAUSE HE'S LAZY, THAT'S WHY.
BUT HIS 100-METER TIME IS TWELVE-POINT-EIGHT... HOW COME?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M NOT A TRACK RUNNER
OH, SHUT UP. ALL A SOCCER PLAYER NEEDS IS GOOD DASH SPEED, THAT'S ALL.

HAJIME YOUKAICHI (16)
CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH FIRST-YEAR STUDENT (SOPHOMORE). THIS UNFORTUNATE BOY'S HONEST AND TRUSTING PERSONALITY IS CONSTANTLY PREYED UPON BY MATSURI. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE MAKES MANY APPEARANCES BECAUSE OF THIS. FAN OF MAIKO. SURPRISINGLY RESILIENT, UNLIKE RAKUICHI!
HERE IT IS! THE SASAMEKE SUB-CHARACTER PROFI-WHAT'S-IT-CALLED ABOUT SOMETHING OR OTHER
PART 3
HIS GRANDFATHER, KOSUKE YOUKAICHI, WAS SAID TO BE A LEGENDARY DETECTIVE IN THE 1920s. ALSO, HIS OLD CHILDHOOD FRIENDS CALL HIM "HAJIME-CHAN!" OR NOT. ACTUALLY NOT, BECAUSE HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY
YES, I LIED.

YOU RAISE A GOOD POINT, FOR ONCE.
YEP. HOW'D YOU KNOW?
THAT HAIRCUT! DID YOU GET IT AT BARBER CHARISMA?
DON (SHOVE)
ACK!
I GO THERE ALL THE TIME.
HIS HAIR'S WHITE!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
I JUST SO HAPPENED TO SPOT YOU THERE YESTERDAY, COMPLETELY AND TOTALLY BY CHANCE.

MENU: CHARISMA CUT, CHARISMA SHAMPOO, CHARISMA PERM, CHARISMA PLUNKER, CHARISMA IRON PERM

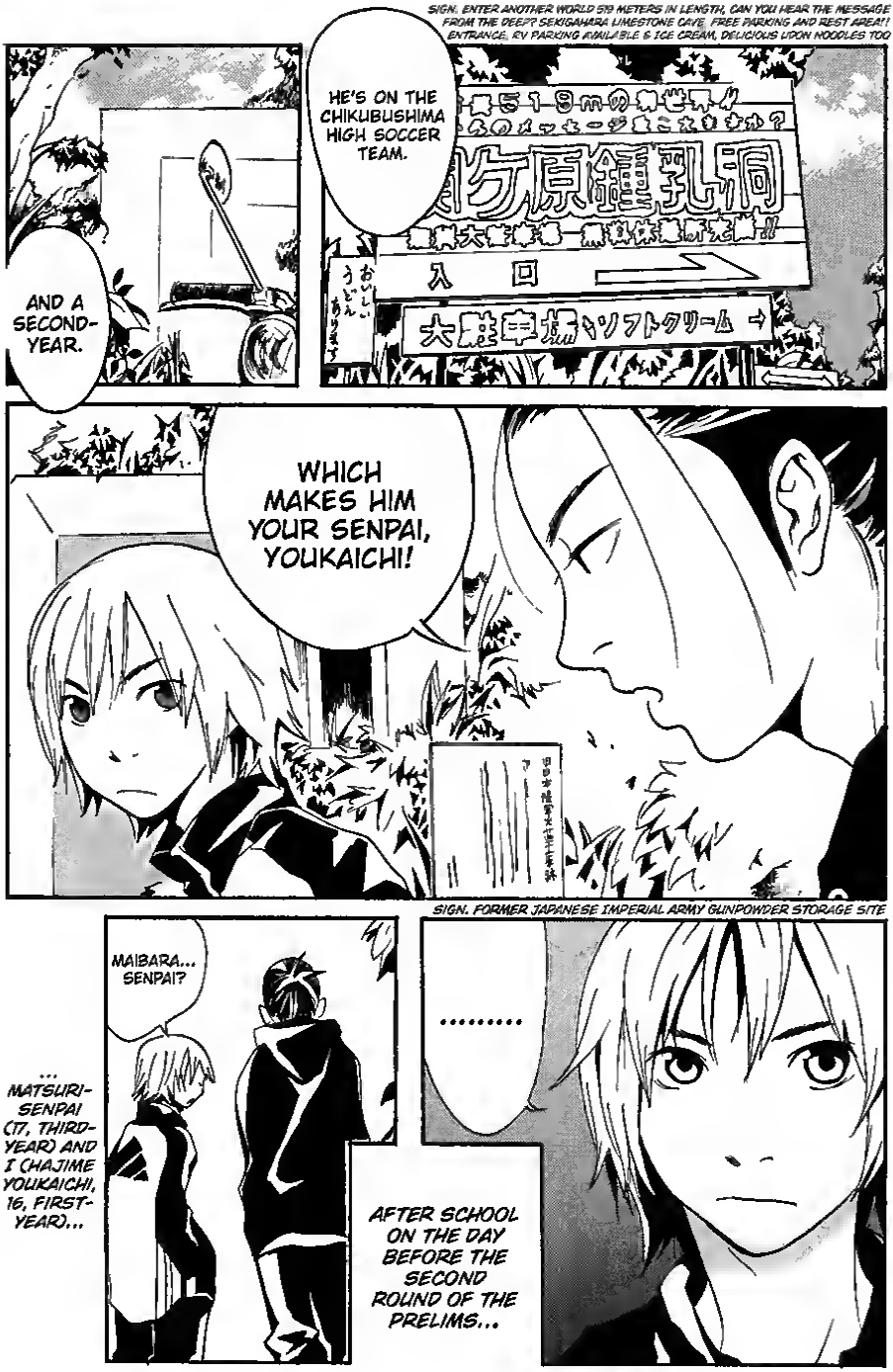
OF COURSE NOT (RULES-WISE)!!
ISN'T HE, LIKE, THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT?
WHITE THIS TIME, HUH?
WHOA
BY THE WAY, ARE STUDENTS AT CHIKU-BUSHIMA HIGH ALLOWED TO DYE THEIR HAIR?
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A LAZY COMPLAINING MONKEY, SO STOP ACTING OUT, OR I'LL RIP OUT ALL YOUR HAIR STRAND BY FILTHY STRAND, BEOTCH!!
HE'S DOING EVERYTHING HE NEEDS TO! HE'S MADE OF BETTER STUFF THAN TRASH LIKE YOU!!
ARE YOU THAT STUPID, YOU STUPID IDIOT!?
TOUZAN IS VALUABLE TO OUR SCHOOL. WHAT ABOUT YOU?
ZUGYUUN
UHHH... TECHNICALLY, YOU ARE A TEACHER, AREN'T YOU...?
WELL, YOU SEE, TOUZAN IS S.P.E.C.I.A.L.
YOU COULD SAY
HE'S SMART, STUDIOUS, HANDSOME, RICH...
SO BASICALLY... HE GETS AWAY WITH IT BECAUSE OF FAVORITISM?

BUT...
WELL, THAT'S JUST HOW THE WORLD WORKS. ♪
EH HE HE HE HE!
I'M JUST NOTICING...
WHAT A TERRIBLE PERSON YOU ARE
...YOU'VE GOT THOSE LEGS, DON'T YOU?
BIWAKO ...

OPPORTUNITIES CAN BE FOUND NO MATTER WHERE YOU LOOK.
TON (THUD)
GOT THAT, RAKU-ICHI?
.....
POOON (BONGGG)
YOU GUYS ARE BOTH SICK.
THERE YOU GO! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
GOOD POINT! AFTER ALL, I'M WAY BETTER THAN THE AVERAGE PERSON!
BWA HA HA!
THEY ARE A LOT ALIKE.
HA HA HA HA!

HUH?
WHERE'S MATSURI-SENPAI?
WAAAH!
I DON'T THINK SO!
PASS IT HERE!
COUGH! COUGH! SMOKY!
PFFF
HEY! HE'S NOT HERE...
YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, TOUZAN?
I THINK HE MAY HAVE GONE LOOKING ...
IN FACT, I DON'T SEE YOUKAICHI-KUN EITHER ...
...FOR "MAIBARA."
WHO?
... UH?

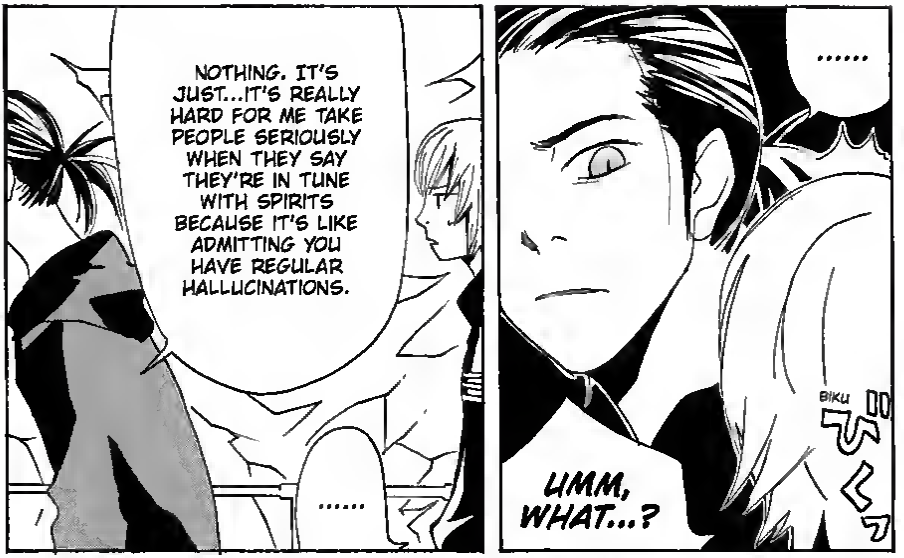

SIGN. ENTER ANOTHER WORLD 519 METERS IN LENGTH, CAN YOU HEAR THE MESSAGE FROM THE DEEP? SEKIGAHARA LIMESTONE CAVE. FREE PARKING AND REST AREA!! ENTRANCE. RV PARKING AVAILABLE & ICE CREAM, DELICIOUS UDON NOODLES TOO
HE'S ON THE CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SOCCER TEAM.
AND A SECOND-YEAR.
入口
WHICH MAKES HIM YOUR SENPAI, YOUKAICHI!
SIGN. FORMER JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY GUNPOWDER STORAGE SITE
MAIBARA... SENPAI?
.....
...MATSURI-SENPAI (17, THIRD-YEAR) AND I (HAJIME YOUKAICHI, 16, FIRST-YEAR)...
AFTER SCHOOL ON THE DAY BEFORE THE SECOND ROUND OF THE PRELIMS...

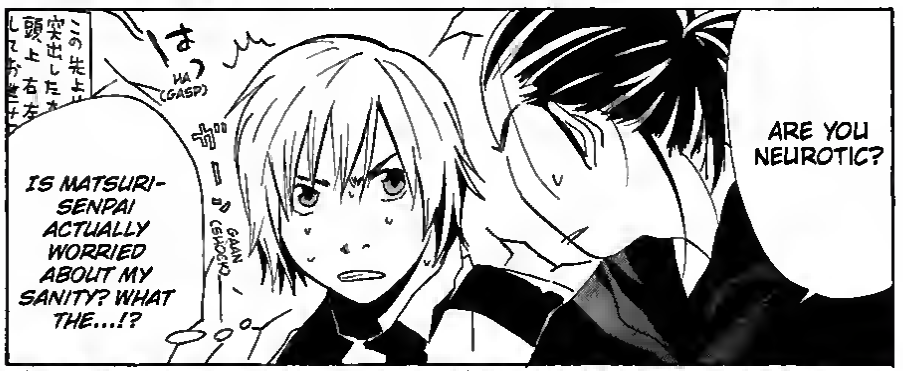
...ACCORDING TO TOUZAN'S INFO, ANYWAY.
BUT APPARENTLY, THIS IS EXACTLY WHERE HE IS...
SO WHO IS THIS GUY?
LAKE BIWA
SHIGA
GIFU
BUT WHY!?
...WERE VISITING A TOURIST ATTRACTION CAVE AT THE VERY BORDER OF THE PREFECTURE.
HA HA HA!
WE HAVE A MATCH TOMORROW!!
IT TOOK OVER AN HOUR TO GET HERE!
AND IN A CAVE?
SIGNS ENTRANCE, LIMESTONE CAVE
入口
HE'S THE FINAL PIECE WE NEED...
...TO COMPLETE OUR TEAM.
WOW...HE ACTUALLY LOOKS SERIOUS!
IF MATSURI-SENPAI IS THIS CONVINCED, HE MUST BE GOOD...

THE LEGENDARY DEFENDER?
HERE WE GO!!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS WHEELS.
BUT WHAT AM I DOING TAGGING ALONG ON THIS TRIP?
SEE...
...THERE'S A SECOND-YEAR ON THE TEAM WHO'S CRAZY GOOD ON DEFENSE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
AHH...
THE GUY'S NAME IS MAIBARA...

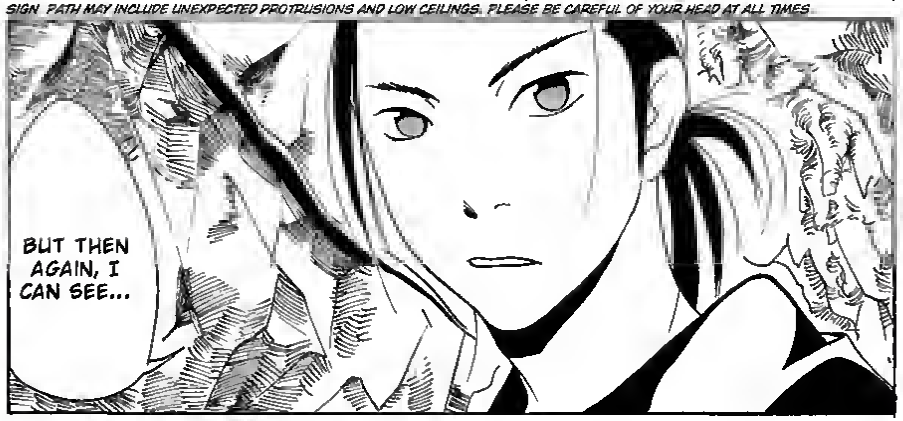
IS THAT TRUE, AZUCHI-SENPAI!?
WOW! I NEVER KNEW WE HAD SUCH A MACHINE ON OUR TEAM!!
I GUESS.
IT MAY SOUND CLICHÉ, BUT HIS COVERAGE IS AIRTIGHT, AND IN LONG OPEN-FIELD SITUATIONS, HE'S LIKE A HIGH-PRECISION MACHINE.
IN TERMS OF TECHNIQUE, HE MIGHT BE JUST AS GOOD AS MATSURI-SENPAI.
QUESTION!
YES! KAWASE-SAN?
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY RAKUICHI WOULDN'T KNOW HIM, BUT WHY DON'T I OR ANY OF THE OTHER FIRST-YEARS EITHER?
...WELL, THAT'S THE PROBLEM, SEE...
NEVER EVEN HEARD OF HIM.
NOPE
YOU DON'T?

ACTUALLY, I HEARD SOME RUMORS THAT HIS DAD WORKED HERE BUT GOT SICK, SO HE'S STEPPING IN TO HELP OUT.
STAY IN SCHOOL
...OHH, I SEE.
HE'S A SHUT-IN!?
NAH, HE'S JUST A FOOL.
...
DITCHES ALL THE TIME.
WELL, HE'S COMPLETELY UNCOOP-ERATIVE BY NATURE TO BEGIN WITH.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU...
LOW CEILING HERE
FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS.
WHAT!? DOES HE EVEN HAVE THE ATTENDANCE CREDITS TO FINISH HIS GRADE?
I HOPE THERE AREN'T LIKE, GHOSTS HERE OR ANYTHING.
BIKU (SHIVER)
BIKU
JUST LETTING YOU KNOW, I'M VERY SENSITIVE TO SPIRITS AND STUFF.

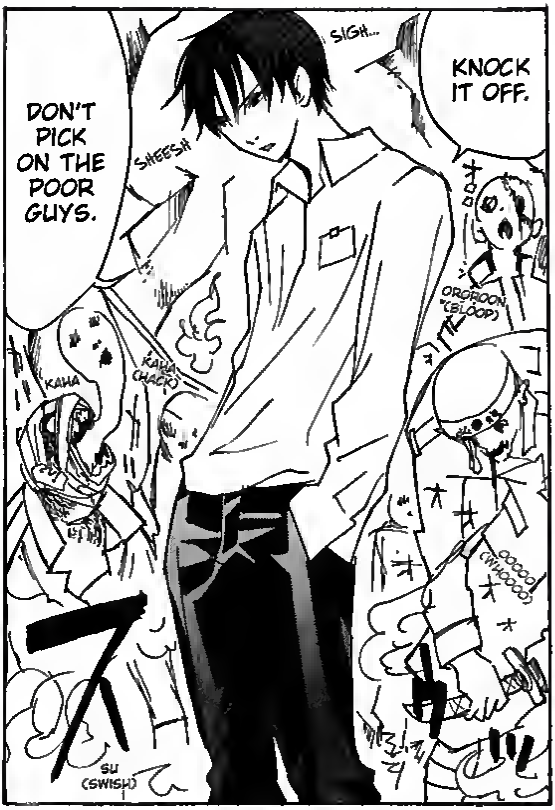

NOTHING. IT'S JUST...IT'S REALLY HARD FOR ME TAKE PEOPLE SERIOUSLY WHEN THEY SAY THEY'RE IN TUNE WITH SPIRITS BECAUSE IT'S LIKE ADMITTING YOU HAVE REGULAR HALLUCINATIONS.
.....
.....
BIKU
UMM, WHAT...?

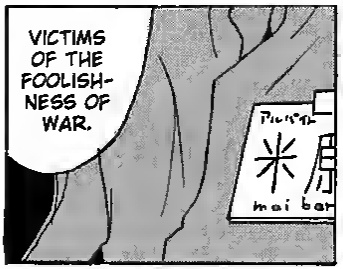


SIGN: PATH MAY INCLUDE UNEXPECTED PROTRUSIONS AND LOW CEILINGS. PLEASE BE CAREFUL OF YOUR HEAD AT ALL TIMES.

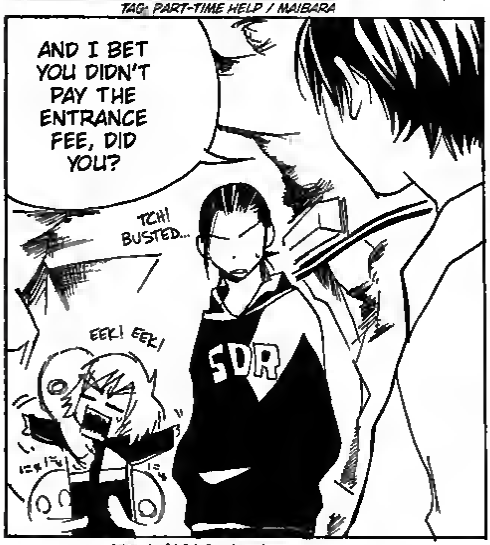


!!
EEK!
!?
BOU (SHOOM)
YUR
YUR (SWISH)
...SOME JAPANESE ARMY SOLDIERS STANDING BEHIND YOU.
SIGN. PLEASE PROCEED WITH CAUTION AND BE CAREFUL OF YOUR HEAD AT ALL TIMES.
YOU SHAN'T BE TROUBLING THE LIVING ONCE THE CAPTAIN OF THE EXORCISM CLUB SENDS YOU ON YOUR WAY TO THE AFTERLIFE!!
THERE YOU ARE, WICKED SPIRITS!!!
BA (WHAP)
SENPAI!
BA
NOOOOOO!
DA (DASH)
NO.
HEY.

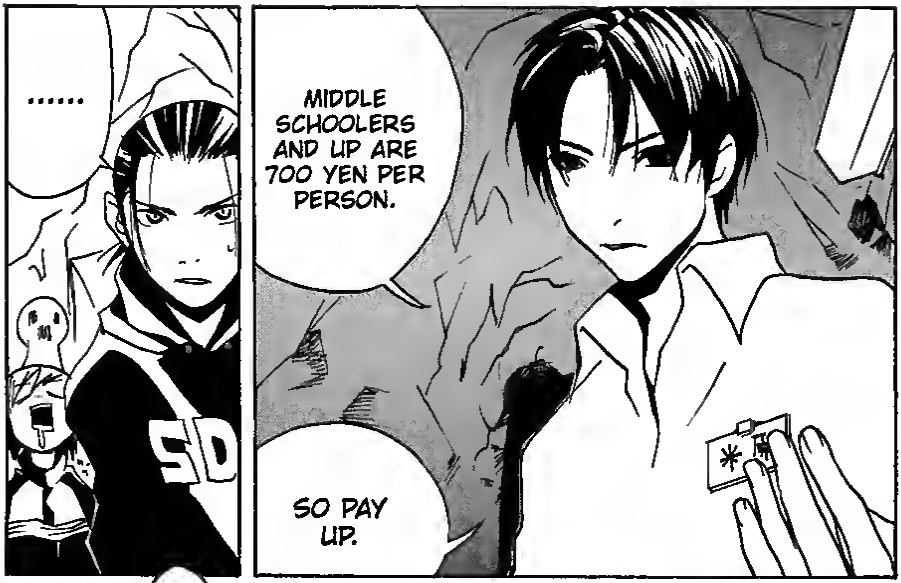




TAG: PART-TIME HELP / MAIBARA



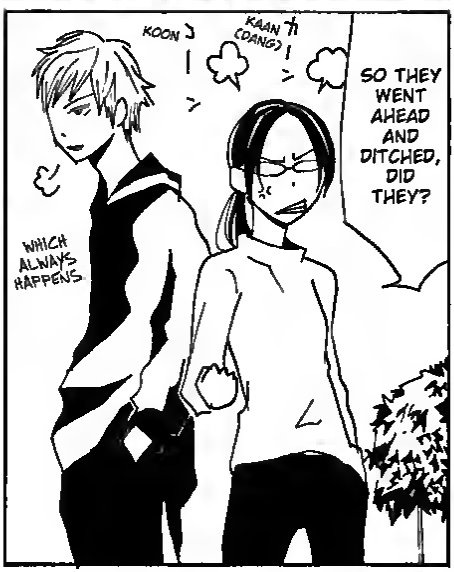
SFX: NYU (STICK) NYU NYU


.....
MIDDLE SCHOOLERS AND UP ARE 700 YEN PER PERSON.
SO PAY UP.

TAG: MAIBARA

TCH!
KIIN (DING)
KOON (DONG)

G'NIGHT.
GOOD NIGHT
TIME TO LEAVE
BUT WE HAVE A GAME TOMORROW!
HA HA!
DASH (TWAP)
WHAT A SHAME, NOW THAT WE'VE GOT YOU OF ALL PEOPLE INTERESTED IN PLAYING AGAIN!


KOON
KAAN (DANG)
SO THEY WENT AHEAD AND DITCHED, DID THEY?
WHICH ALWAYS HAPPENS

JARI (CRUNCH)
GA (KICK)
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT REALLY...
GONNA
WELL, AS LONG AS WE GET MAIBARA TO SHOW UP, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE!
TON (TAP)
BAN (BAM)
AND THAT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, CAPTAIN!!
MATSURI-SENPAI IS THE CAPTAIN.

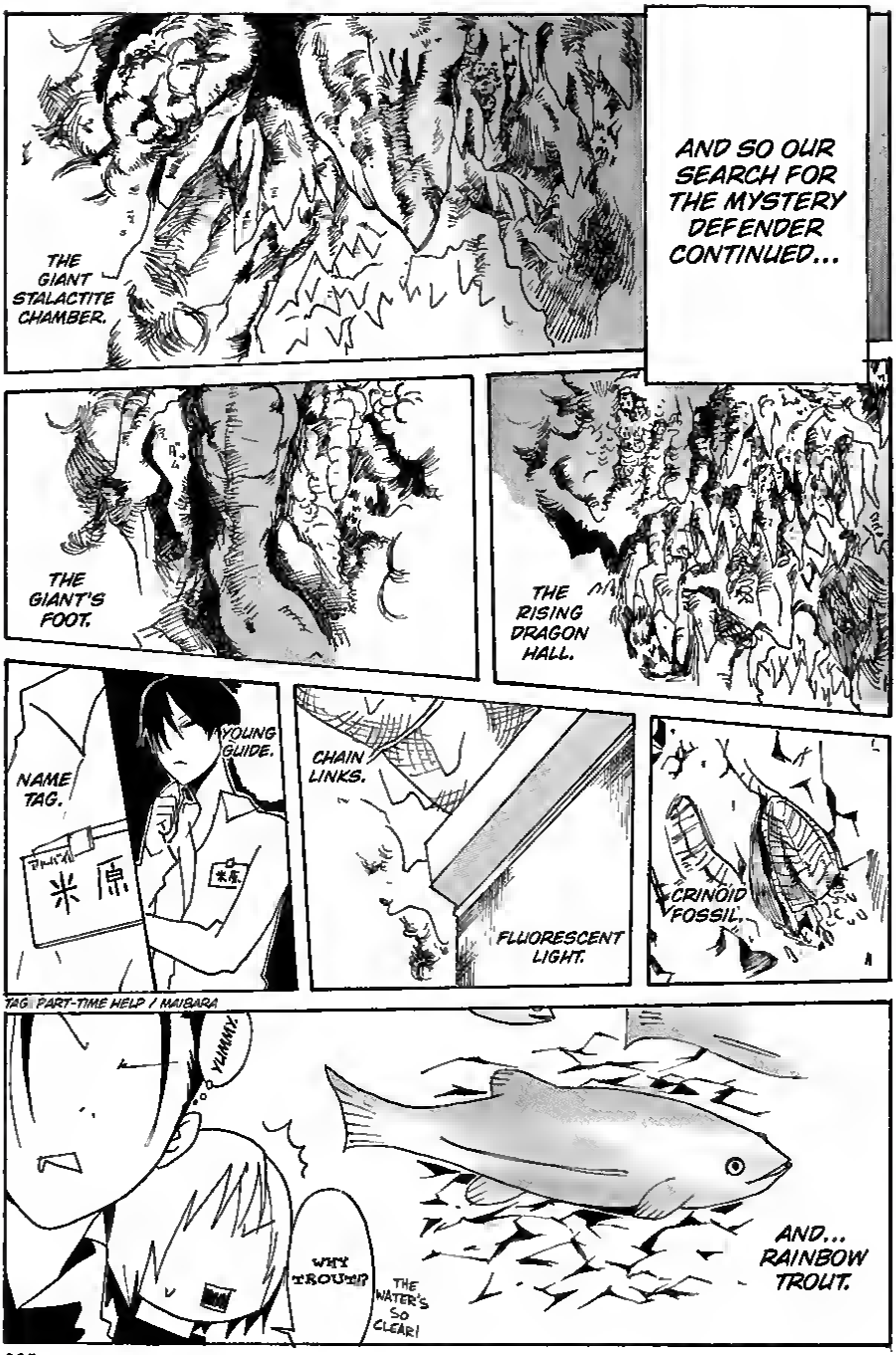
SO THIS IS A CRINOID FOSSIL, HUH?
OH-HO!
THIS KNOWLEDGE WILL BE SO USEFUL.
SENPAI, ARE YOU FORGET-TING WHY WE'RE HERE?
AND THESE GUYS KEEP HANG-ING ONTO ME...
GETTING HEAVY
...
THE FOSSILS?
WHY WE'RE HERE?
I HEARD THIS PLACE WAS USED AS A BOMB SHELTER DURING THE WAR...
OR MAYBE NOT. I DON'T REALLY CARE, HONESTLY
I SEE.
WHAT!?

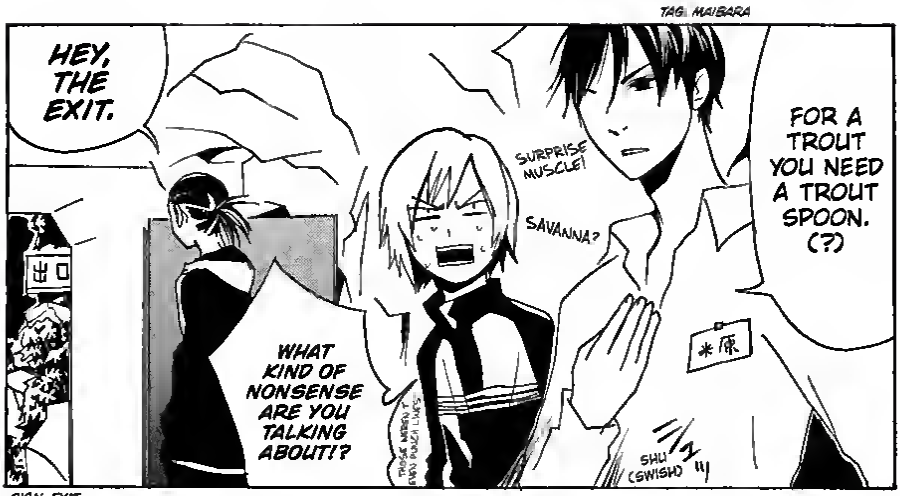
It wouldn't be crazy to suggest that the tortured, damned souls of the dead crawl through these tunnels, lamenting their eternal torment...or perhaps it would.
AH... AH...
IZU IZU IZU IZU.
And let's not forget: much blood has been shed in this area, going back to the Sengoku era of the sixteenth century...
YOU REMEMBER HOW THERE WAS THAT FORMER IMPERIAL ARMY GUNPOWDER STORAGE AREA RIGHT NEAR THE ENTRANCE?
THEY SAY THAT ALL KINDS OF STUFF COULD HAVE HAPPENED THERE...OR NOT.
DA DOASH
WAH!
YOUKAICHI!
I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE OF THIS!!!
IT'S TOO SCARY!
BA DWHOOSH

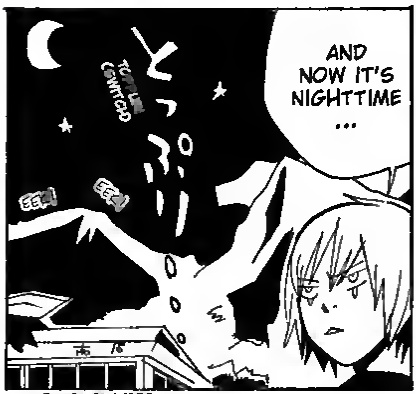
VUO (VWOOM)
BAKI (CRACK)
BAKI
A FLY?
HA (GASP)
!!
!!
!!

ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO HAVE A PLAN FOR A CANAL IN PANAMA TOO?
GET OFF ME, YOU BLITH-ERING IDIOT!
BASH! (WHAP)
HIYA-H!
AUGH!
S-S-SENPAI! I JUST S-SAW A TEN-FOOT DRAGON-FLY!!!
I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE!
SAVE ME! ME SAVE!
AS THE CAPTAIN OF THE CHIKU-BUSHIMA HIGH SCIENCE CLUB, I SWEAR TO YOU!!
SHUT UP!
BISH! (SLAP)
THANK YOU, SIR.
YOU THINK SUCH THINGS EXIST IN THIS AGE OF SCIENCE? USE COMMON SENSE, YOU FOOL!!
B-BUT, SENPAI ...
YOU'RE LECTURING ME ON COMMON SENSE...
THIS IS JUST... PLASMA!!
AND SWAMP GAS.
KUWA (ROAR)

WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY ARE?
P-PLASMA ...
TWITCH
HEY!
!?
BUT HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THESE PEOPLE, SENPAI...?
THEY'RE SEE-THROUGH
PIPE DOWN, YOU TWO.
YOU'RE BOTHERING THE OTHER CUSTOMERS. GET OUT OF HERE!
SORRY, FOLKS KIDS THESE DAYS JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND MANNERS.
AYE, AYE, SIR
ROGER
LET'S JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE, SENPAI.
HORORI (SHIVER)
THOSE AREN'T CUS-TOM-ERS.


THE GIANT STALACTITE CHAMBER.
AND SO OUR SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERY DEFENDER CONTINUED...
THE GIANT'S FOOT.
THE RISING DRAGON HALL.
NAME TAG.
YOUNG GUIDE.
米原
CHAIN LINKS.
FLUORESCENT LIGHT.
CRINOID FOSSIL.
TAG: PART-TIME HELP / MAIBARA
YUMMY.
WHY IROU!?
THE WATER'S SO CLEAR!
AND... RAINBOW TROUT.


TAG: MAIBARA
HEY, THE EXIT.
SURPRISE MUSCLE!
SAVANNA?
FOR A TROUT YOU NEED A TROUT SPOON. (?)
WHAT KIND OF NONSENSE ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
THOSE WHO WISH FOR PEACE LOOK
SHU (SWISH)
SIGN: EXIT


AND NOW IT'S NIGHTTIME ...
TOKYO CONVICTED
EEK!
EEK!
BUILDING: STORE

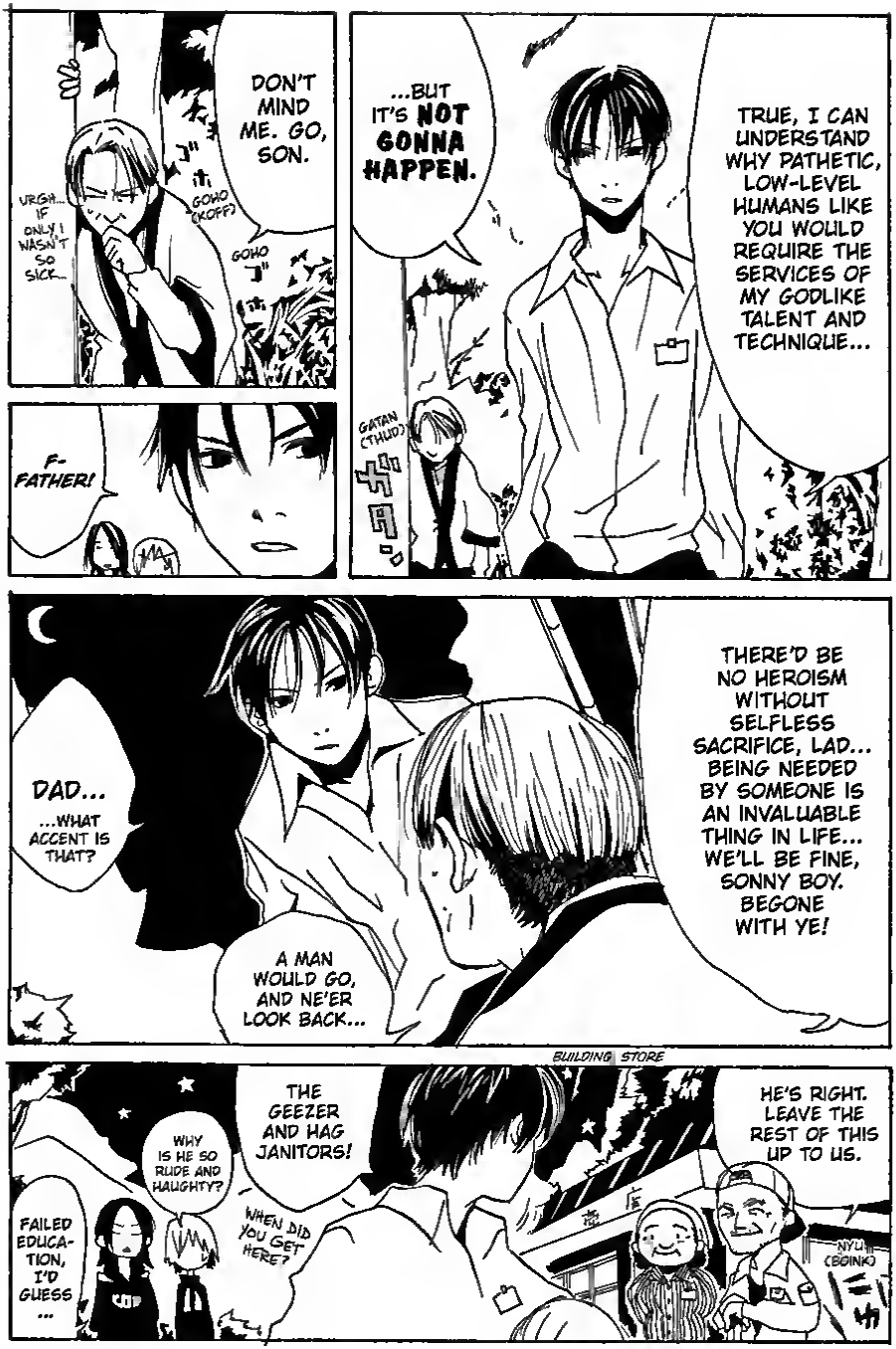
YOUKA-ICHI!

WELL, IT WAS A TUNNEL FULL OF MYSTERY THAT CONJURED UP A BREEZE OF THE FAR DISTANT PAST. I ENJOYED THIS AFTERNOON OF LEISURE...
IT WAS WORTH IT...
SENPAI... WE HAVEN'T ACCOMPLISHED THE ORIGINAL GOAL OF OUR TRIP IN THE LEAST.

NO TIME WE SPEND IN LIFE IS TRULY WASTED.
HIS TREAT?
POI (TOSS)
WHOA, THANKS.
SUWA (GACK)
I HATE TO SAY THIS, SENPAI...BUT WE DIDN'T FIND MAIBARA-SENPAI, AND WE SKIPPED PRACTICE...DOESN'T THAT COUNT AS WASTED TIME?
GUSU
GUSU (SOB)
I FOR-GOT!!
THE CAN GOES KAN (CAN)
BYU (WHOOSH)
WE GOTTA GO!
CURSES!
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ENJOYING A DAY LIKE THIS. ★

THE CAN GOES
MAN (HAND)
KURU (SPIN)
KURU
KURU
KAKON (DOINK)
PASHI (SNAK)
!?
NHA?
BI (EIP)
KAN
KAKAN
GASA (RUSTLE)
KYURU (TWIRL)
KYURU
KYURU
KYURU
HYU (WHOOSH)
SFX. DOGYAA (BWAAK)
...THAT FOOT-WORK!
KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN.
IT CAN'T BE!
THAT WAS RIDICU-LOUS!!
SFX. PACHI (POP)

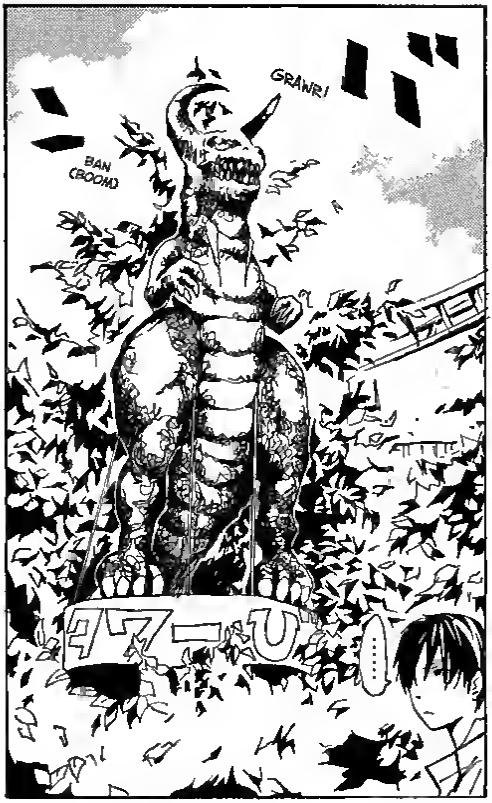
...IS THAT... HIKIYAMA-SAN...?
FASA GBRUGH
YOU MUST BE MAIBARA!
SDR
HUNAAH!?
EXCUSE MEEEE!?
SO COME TO THE MATCH TOMORROW.
AN ORDER?
HMMM ...
AND SO, BLAH BLAH BLAH ...
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU EITHER WITH YOUR HAIR TIED UP.
HA-HA-HA, I SAW THE NAME TAG AND THOUGHT YOU WERE KOMEHARA.
DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU IN PLAIN CLOTHES
HA HA HA!
.....
YOU SHOULD HAVE NO-TICED!!
COME ON!


DON'T MIND ME. GO, SON.
GOHO (KOFF)
GOHO
URGH... IF ONLY I WASN'T SO SICK...
F-FATHER!
...BUT IT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN.
GATAN (THUD)
TRUE, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY PATHETIC, LOW-LEVEL HUMANS LIKE YOU WOULD REQUIRE THE SERVICES OF MY GODLIKE TALENT AND TECHNIQUE...
DAD...
...WHAT ACCENT IS THAT?
A MAN WOULD GO, AND NE'ER LOOK BACK...
THERE'D BE NO HEROISM WITHOUT SELFLESS SACRIFICE, LAD... BEING NEEDED BY SOMEONE IS AN INVALUABLE THING IN LIFE... WE'LL BE FINE, SONNY BOY. BEGONE WITH YE!
BUILDING STORE
FAILED EDUCATION, I'D GUESS ...
WHY IS HE SO RUDE AND HAUGHTY?
THE GEEZER AND HAG JANITORS!
WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?
HE'S RIGHT. LEAVE THE REST OF THIS UP TO US.
NYU (BOINK)

C'MON, YOU TWO. IT'S LATE...YOU STAY WITH US TONIGHT.
WHAT? YOU DON'T MIND?
SUKIYAKI!?
WE'RE HAVING SUKIYAKI FOR DINNER.
YOU GUYS ...
YEAH...
SUREE!
STILL WHAT A GREAT STORY.
HOO
HOO.
MEAT, MEAT, MEAAAT! NOO-HOO! SUKIYAKI, SUKIYAKI!!
NEXT MORN-ING...
AAAH!?
Yes!
THE KING OF FEASTS!
SIGN WATCH FOR FIRE
THEY BOTH LEFT IN A BIG HURRY, PALLY. TOOK YOUR VEHICLE TOO.
YOU GUYS BOTH NEED TO WAKE... THEY'RE GONE!!
GOHO
!?
THEY WHAT!?
I'VE BEEN LEFT BEHIND?
BICHA (SPLAT)
AND HIS DAD'S PUKING BLOOD...
KICKOFF'S AT 10:30! WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME!
IT'S 9:40!?
IT'LL TAKE AT LEAST AN HOUR TO GET THERE!!
"MAIBARA'S ROOM
PICTURE. GRAMPS

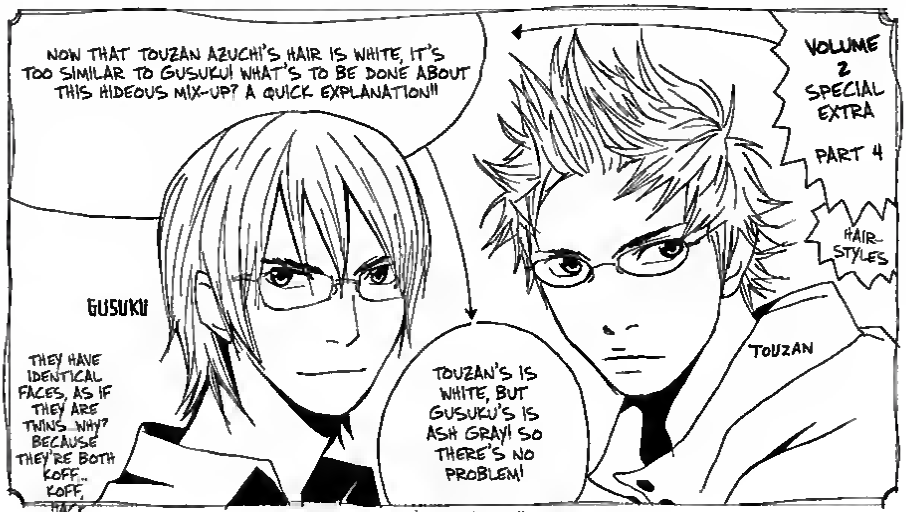
AWWRIGHT!!
SHUT UP...
PASHIIN (SMACK)
SACRE BLEU
DWA!?
THIS HAPPENS EVERY TIME.
DWA?
IS EVERYONE HERE YET!? DAMN YOU RUFF!-AAANS(?)!!
YUSSS!
WE'RE GONNA KICK SOME MORE ASS TODAY!!
KUWA (RAWR)
ACTUALLY, NOT ONLY IS MAIBARA-SENPAI NOT HERE, BUT MATSURI-SENPAI AND YOUKAICHI-KUN ARE ABSENT TOO...
FLAMING!
*BINAKO
SFX: CHEKI (CHIKK
OR IS IT?
HOWEVER..
THIS ONE IS MINE...
HEH!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
BUIIIIN
...WERE COMPLETELY LOST.
MY HAIR'S MESSED UP
WHERE IS THE FIELD?
BUIIIN (VROOM)
BY THE WAY...
MEANWHILE, MATSURI AND MAIBARA...

#10 CALL IT WHAT YOU WANT

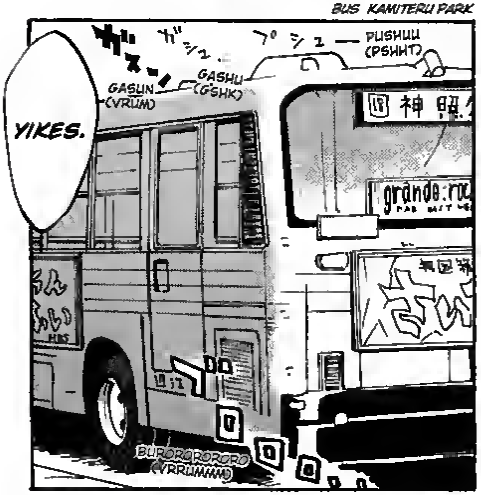


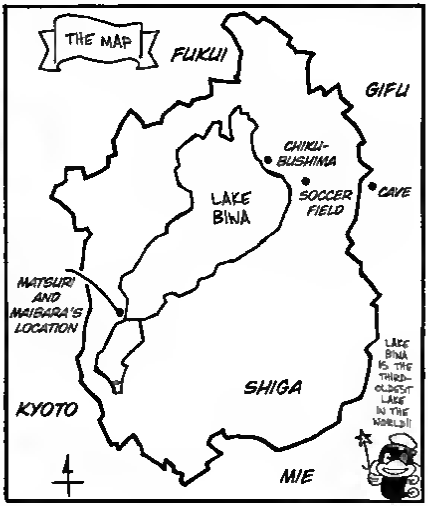
SIGN. BIWAKO TOWER

SIGN. BUNGEE JUMPING WITHOUT THE CORD / SCUD-DIVING IS HERE


NOW THAT TOUZAN AZUCHI'S HAIR IS WHITE, IT'S TOO SIMILAR TO GUSUKU! WHAT'S TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS HIDEOUS MIX-UP? A QUICK EXPLANATION!!
VOLUME 2 SPECIAL EXTRA
PART 4
HAIR STYLES
GUSUKU
THEY HAVE IDENTICAL FACES, AS IF THEY ARE TWINS. WHY? BECAUSE THEY'RE BOTH KOFF.. KOFF, HACK...
TOUZAN'S IS WHITE, BUT GUSUKU'S IS ASH GRAY! SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM!
TOUZAN
IT'S FINE! OKAY!! ...NO?

SIGN: BIWAKO TOWER
BUS: KAMITERU PARK





THIS IS BAD.
BA (ZIP)
TER-RIBLE.
AHH, GEEZ.
SENSEI'S GONNA REAM ME OUT!
IF SHE DOESN'T KILL ME FIRST?
DA (D-SHU)
HORREN-DOUS!
DREAD-FUL.
DA
AHHH! I'M SO SORRY FOR BEING LAAATE!!
GASHAN (CLANK)
ZA (ZSHU)

BIKU (TWITCH)
!?
ピー
PIIII (FWEEEEET)
キラ
WAAAH!
HEY BUD, TAKE IT EASY
NAGAHAMA!
GASHI (GRAB)
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT, HUH!?
!
ガルルー
GARURUUU (GRRRR)
FUNGAAA (SNORT)
NAGA-HAMA ...!?
KNOCK IT OFF, NAGAHAMA! YOU DON'T WANT A CARD!!

!?
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!?
HE OUGHT TO SEE A DOCTOR ABOUT THIS.
TEKI (PRIM)
PAKI (PRIM)
SEN-PAI!
TCH.
SOMEONE ARRANGE A CAR! MAIKO, STAY WITH HIM.
HUH? WHY ME?
LANE.
TEKI
PAKI
SENPAAA!!
OH NO... HAS HE BEEN INJURED ...?
ZUGYAAN (KADOING)
SU-SSS

ランド・アンド
RANDO ANDO SUPANKOO (THWACKETY-WHACK)
GET READY TO PLAY! YOU'RE GOING IN FOR AZUCHI!
SHUDDUP!
ME? BUT I JUST GOT HERE!
PAR-DON!?
FUGAA (STEAM)
ARE YOU SERI-OUS!?
MATSURI ISN'T HERE YET, SO I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE!!
YOU'RE LATE!
OW!
THEY LEFT FOR THE MATCH EARLIER THAN I DID!!
BURORORODO (VRMMM)
WHY AREN'T THEY HERE!?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
WHERE THE HELL IS THE FIELD!?
PAKON (THWACK)
BATA BATA BATA (THUD)

GREAT...
UGHH
HEY, YOUKAICHI! BE CAREFUL OUT THERE.
WHY?
HIYA
KILL THEM, YOUKAICHI-KUN
EEEP!
PI! (TWEET)
MATSURI-SENPAI ISN'T HERE, AZUCHI-SENPAI'S HURT... AND THEY WANT ME TO HELP?
GU (STRETCH)
GU
GU
GU
YOU WANT SOMETHIN', SHRIMPY?
THIS TEAM WE'RE PLAYING TODAY CAN BE PRETTY NASTY.
NAGAHAMA'S ALREADY ON THE BRINK.
STOP IT, NAGA-HAMA!
UUUGH...
I CAN'T TAKE THIS!

SHIRT: IKA
BA (ZSHH)
以下
3
16
RAAAH!
22
RAKU-ICHI!
THAT'S IT! GO!!
PIIII (PWEEET)
DOCHA (THWUMP)
!!
GA (WHAM)
TCH!
GUH (THUD)

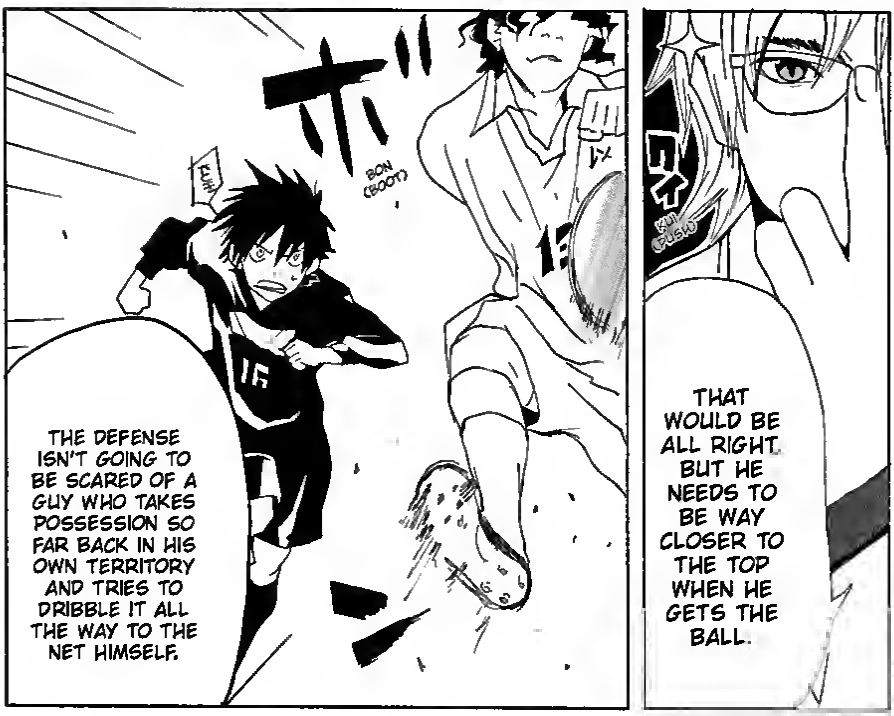
THAT HURT... ASS.
.....
OH.
SFX: SHIRETTO (SWIRL)
SORRY.
しれっと
MY BAD, MY BAD
3
MUKURI (HRRUP)
HE GOT A GOOD HARD ELBOW ON HIM.
NO GRACE IN IT.
THEY PLAY ROUGH, DON'T THEY?
IRA
イラ
イラ
IRA (IRK)
TCH!
THIS SHIT IS GETTING OLD!!
GIVE IT BACK TO 'EM, RAKU-ICHI!
OH NO... WHAT IF RAKUICHI GETS HURT TOO?
DON'T EGG HIM ON.

I'M GONNA CRUSH THESE FOOLS!!
ZUN
ZUN (STOMP)
WOW, GREAT. HE'S TOTALLY TAKING EVERY PIECE OF BAIT IN SIGHT!
.....
DON'T TAKE THE BAIT EVERY TIME THEY HARASS YOU!
I KNOW THAT!!
YOU OKAY, NAGA-HAMA?
YEAH!
BISHI (WHISH)
BUWA (WHOOSH)
BA (LEAP)
13
22
16

IRA
IRA (IRA)
BA (ZIP)
HE'S FAST!
HYU (OOOM)
DA (DASH)
GUN (ZOOM)
GA (THIKK)
BI (ZZIP)
GUN
NAGA-HAMA!
IGNORED.
WHOA!!
HEY!
PASH! (PSHK)
OVER HERE, NAGA-HAMA!

CRAP!
THE TEAM'S RHYTHM IS ALL OFF.
WHOA!
ZA (ZSHH)
DON'T PLAY WITH ME!
ZUZAZA (ZZRSH)
WHAT A MESS.
THEY'RE NOT MAKING UP FOR THE LOSS OF TOUZAN IN THE LEAST.
BUT AT LEAST RAKUICHI'S TRYING.
SO IS EVERYONE ELSE.
TRUE, HE MIGHT BE THE ONLY SOLID POINT OF ATTACK ON THE TEAM.
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT THE BALL WOULD CONSTANTLY BE IN NAGAHAMA'S VICINITY.

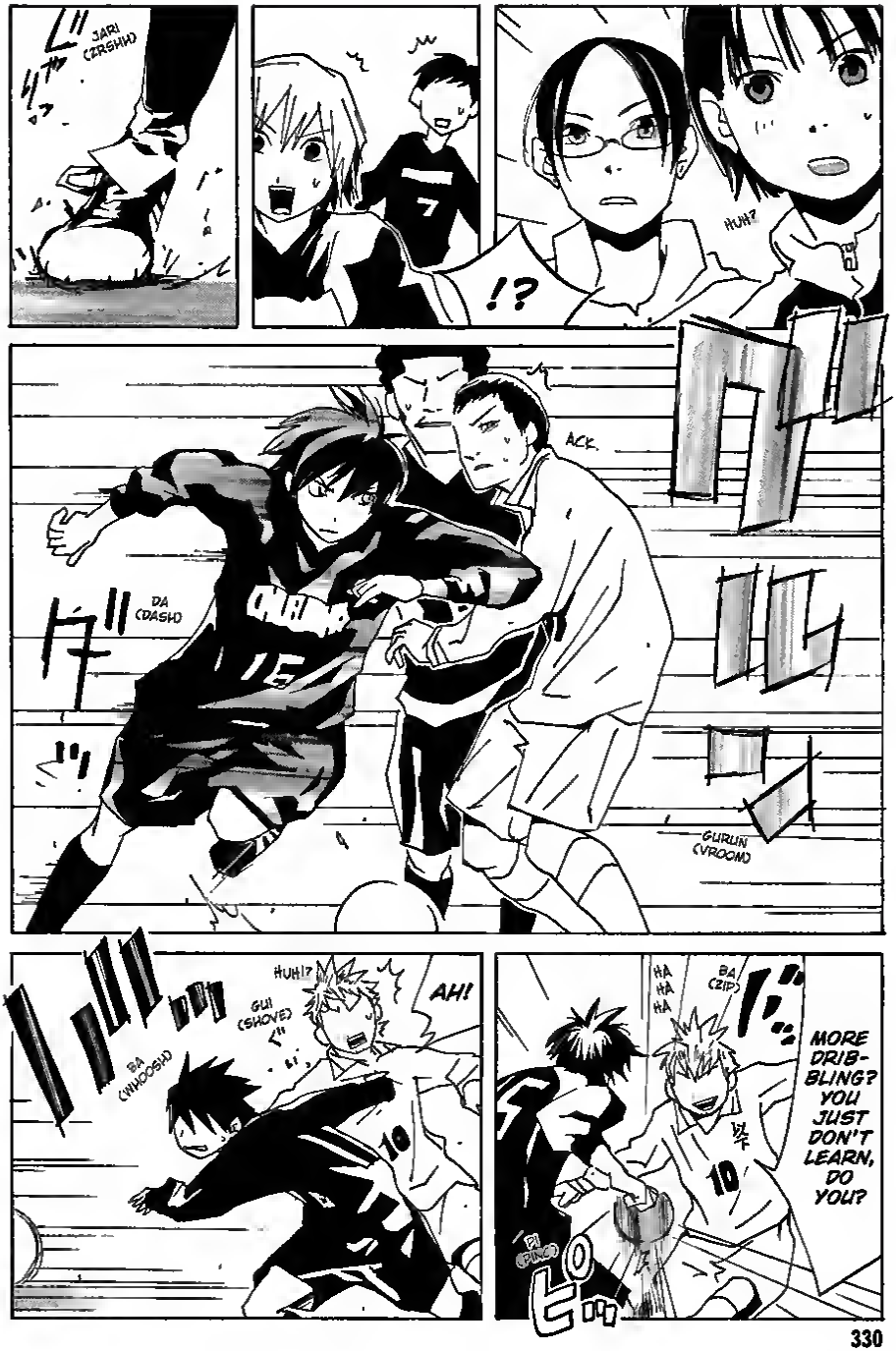
FIRST OF ALL, HE NEVER EVER PASSES THE BALL.
AHH DAMNIT!
!!
DON (THUD)
GA (THKK)
THE PROBLEM IS, HE'S NOT A PLAYMAKER OR A GAME-MANAGER...


THE DEFENSE ISN'T GOING TO BE SCARED OF A GUY WHO TAKES POSSESSION SO FAR BACK IN HIS OWN TERRITORY AND TRIES TO DRIBBLE IT ALL THE WAY TO THE NET HIMSELF.
TSU
BON (BOOT)
KUH (PUSH)
THAT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT BUT HE NEEDS TO BE WAY CLOSER TO THE TOP WHEN HE GETS THE BALL.

EEP!
DOGA (SLAM)
MOVE IT, BITCH!
OR I'LL CUT YOUR HEAD OFF!
RAAAH!
RAAAH, I SAY!
...BUT FOR THAT TO BE FRUITFUL, HE NEEDS MORE SUPPORT FROM HIS TEAMMATES.
HIS SPEED STILL MAKES HIM A LEGITIMATE THREAT...
DAMN!
HAA (PANT)
HAA
...THEY'VE GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS WHEN UP AGAINST SUCH A ROUGH FOE.
IRA (IRK)
.....
STUPID WIMPS ARE CHICKENING OUT LEFT AND RIGHT!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, IDIOT!?
GOD!
HOW-EVER ...
B-B-BUT THEY'RE SCARY...
THE OTHERS NEED TO LEARN HOW TO USE HIM.
SFX: PUNSUKA PUN (HARRUMPH)
RAKUICHI'S LOSING HIS COOL TOO...
OH, DEAR
GAA (GRAAH)
RUN, YOU NINCOM-POOPS!!
PUNSAAA (SNORT)

EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR SCHOOL IS THAT #10'S ONE-MAN SHOW, RIGHT?
HNN?
WHATCHU WANT, BLONDIE?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE IT UP, MAN?
YO.
10
16
WHA?
AND YOU AIN'T DONE DICK SINCE HE LEFT THE GAME ANYWAY, SO...
...JUST GIVE IT UP.
HA...
HA HA HA...
BUCCHIIIN (SNAP)

RAKU-ICHI...
STUPID... BEARDY!!
GIRI (GRIT)
TA (TMP)
TA
TA
SUU (SSK)
C'MON, LET'S SEE YOU TRY TO PASS ME.
BA (ZIP)
KA (THAK)


JARI (CRSHH)
HUH?
!?
ACK.
DA (DASH)
GURUN (VROOM)
HUH!?
AH!
GUI (SHOVE)
BA (WHOOSH)
HA HA HA
BA (ZIP)
MORE DRIB-BLING? YOU JUST DON'T LEARN, DO YOU?
10
10

THERE HE GOES!!
GUN (ZOOM)
NAGA-HAMA!
BA (ZIP)
PI (BINK)
CHON (CHOP)

RAKU-ICHI!
OOH!
IRA イラ
IRA (GRR) イラ
HE JUST SNUCK PAST FOUR GUYS!?
HOLY COW!!
ZUBAN (BOOM)
.....

WHEN YOU CONSIDER HIS NATURAL TALENTS ...
...THIS IS INDEED AN EFFECTIVE LINE OF ATTACK FOR HIM.

DRIBBLING WITH AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM OF TOUCHES...
...KICKING OUT INTO OPEN SPACE AND LEAVING THE DEFENDERS IN THE DUST.

BO (BOOM)
CRAP, GET BACK!!
TCH!
UGH!
GA
GA
GA (THUD)
BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK EVERY TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU FOOLS!? GET BACK IN POSITION!!
GYU (SQUEEZE)
OH DEAR.
UH-OH, A COUNTER ...
AAAAAH!
POOON (BWONGG)
GOT IT!
PASHI (SHWAP)

DON'T LET THEM GET A FREE SHOT ON AN UNGUARDED GOAL!!
CHIKUBUSHI
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT THERE!?
PHEW.
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.
WAY TO GO, MORONS!!
YOU'RE SLOW AS MOLASSES OUT THERE!!
MOLASSES!?
!!?
THEY ONLY GOT THAT SHOT BECAUSE YOU LET THEM TAKE THE BALL!!
WHAT!?
GAAAN (SHOCK)
PLAY SOME DE-FENSE!
...TCH!
HAA (PANT)
RAKUICHI ...?
COME ON! LET'S PLAY SOME "D"!
GET YOUR HEADS IN THE GAME, YOU NUMBNUTS!!

QUICK, GIMME THE BALL!!
GET THE BALL, YOU IDIOT!
BI (BING)
AHH!
SURURI (SLIP)
RAKU-ICHI... PASSED THE BALL?
OH MY...
MAYBE IT'S JUST DESPERA-TION
HAS HE DISCOVERED THE CONCEPT OF TEAM PLAY!?
STILL ...
...HE'S TAKING IT OUT ON THEM TOO HARD.
HMM...
GOD, THIS IS SO FRUS-TRATING!!
ARE YOU GUYS EVEN TAKING THIS GAME SERI-OUSLY!?
DON (SHOVE)

DON'T CALL ME CRAPPY!
HEY! WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
C'MON, YOU TWO!
KNOCK IT OFF!
OH, SHUT UP! IF YOU WANT A PASS, THEN STOP BEING SO CRAPPY AND KEEP UP WITH ME, MORON!!
GA (PUSH)
WHY DON'T YOU START CONCENTRATING ON YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND MAKE A FEW PASSES RATHER THAN DRIBBLING THE BALL THE ENTIRE TIME!?
HANG ON A SEC, NAGAHAMA.
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN BY THAT!?
WHY ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF THESE CHUMPS!?
RIDICULOUS!
DOKU! (PUMP)
DOKN! (BADUMP)
IT'S 'COS EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU IS FREAKIN' OUT!!
THIS IS DRIVING ME CRAZY.
LET'S FOCUS ON THE MATCH!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH.
IRA (TIRK)
IRA
PAN
PAN (CLAP)
GRR

SHIT.
IRA
IRA
HA HA HA
UH-OH, WHAT HAPPENED? LOOKS LIKE NOBODY WANTS TO GIVE YOU THE BALL!
YOU GET LEFT OUT OF THE CIRCLE OF FRIENDS?
HUH?
!?
DOFU (THUD)
TAKE THAT
TSK!
HE'S FAST, MAN!
!!
DON (SHOVE)
KORO (ROLL)

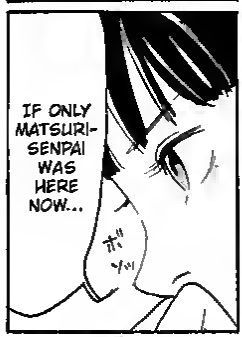
SFX: TON (TAP) TON

DAM-MIT!!
HALF-TIME!
PII! (FWEET)
PASU (SWISH)
1-0
HEY!
TCH!
AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE AZUCHI ANYMORE!!
GIVING UP A GOAL IN THE LAST SECOND!
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!?
EASY, EASY
OH, SHUT UP ABOUT ONE MEASLY GOAL. STOP DRAGGING ME DOWN!
"ZUGYAAN (SHOCK)
IT ONLY HAPPENED BECAUSE YOU WERE DUMB ENOUGH TO COMMIT A FOUL INSIDE THE BOX!
THAT GOAL WAS YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW!
WHAT?
WHAT?

SHUT UP! DON'T BLAME YOUR OWN LACK OF TALENT ON OTHERS!
BISHI (JAB)
SHNAAA?
... DOUCHE ...!!
WHAT!?
EHH?
GO (SNAP)
YOU...
COULD THIS UGLY PERSONALITY...
HMPH!!
HE'S MAD AT US?
SUTA (STOMP)
SUTA
...BE THE REAL REASON THAT HE COULDN'T HACK IT IN ITALY?
IF ONLY MATSURI-SENPAI WAS HERE...
COMPLAINING LIKE THAT IS THE REASON YOU SUCK!
GET LOST, TURD!
THE WHOLE TEAM COULDN'T HELP BUT WONDER.

BINGO!★

FAN. FOLDING FAN



SFX: BOSO (MUTTER)

HEH.
THE GENIUS KNOWN AS ME!!
BAN (BOOM)
QUITE RIGHT, MY DEAR. NOTHING WOULD GET DONE WITHOUT THIS GENIUS HERE TO HELP.
THAT'S THE STORY OF THIS SORRY TEAM!
HUH? MATSURI-SENPAI!?
MATSURI-SENPAI!!
OH YEAH! WHAT ABOUT MAIBARA-SAN!?
KUI (NOD)
DON'T BRING IT UP
WHERE THE HELL WERE YOU?
IT TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH, SEN-PAI!!

TON
(THUD)
MAIBARA-SAN!!
トン
TON
SO...
OH MY GOD, HE'S SO HOT...
SU
(SSK)
PO
(BLUSH)
KIRAAN
(SPARKLE)
...ITALY BOY.
!

I'M IN.
YOU'RE OUT.

SASAMEKE # 02 **to be continued.**

THE AUTHOR SPEAKS (?)
WHISPERS OF YOUTH ❷
"BEFORE THE WHISPERING KICK OF YOUTH"
What does "before the kick" mean? Plus, it covers a topic which completely dates the whole piece...Sigh. First introduction of Nagahama-kun. (No relation to Rakuichi)
BUHH (GRUNT)
CAN'T OINK! STOP... DROOL ING!
青春

"WE HAVE LOST...
"...ALL FAITH."
"IN WHAT?"

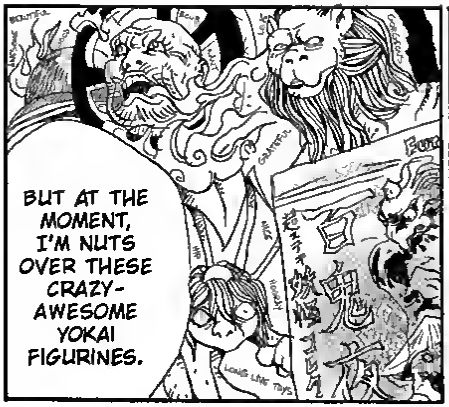
NEWSPAPER: PLASTIC MODEL TOURNAMENT, "PLEASE MAKE AN MG Z'GOK."
I WANT AN HGCU CHAR Z'GOK. YAKINIKU RESTAURANT, IBUKI, IT'S DELICIOUS!

BEFORE THE WHISPERING KICK OF YOUTH

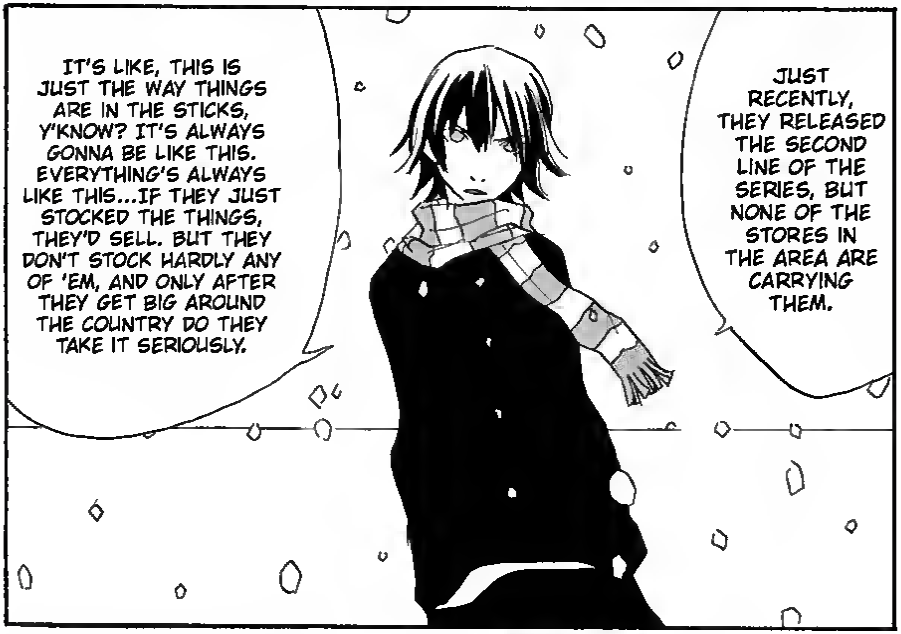
SFX. GOKU (GULP) GOKU

WRONG.
GIVE IT BACK
NO!
ESCAPING FROM REALITY, OR BLOWING OFF STEAM? WE ARE EXAM STUDENTS, AFTER ALL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, THEN?
GRR!
HE COULD HEAR US..
"DESPAIRING."
SEE?

COLD.
.....
NORD GAMES?
"C."
I'M DEALING ...
...WITH SOME SUPER-MEGA-CLASS FRUSTRATION RIGHT NOW.



CARD: HYAKKI YAKO ABSO-FAB YOKAI COLLECTION

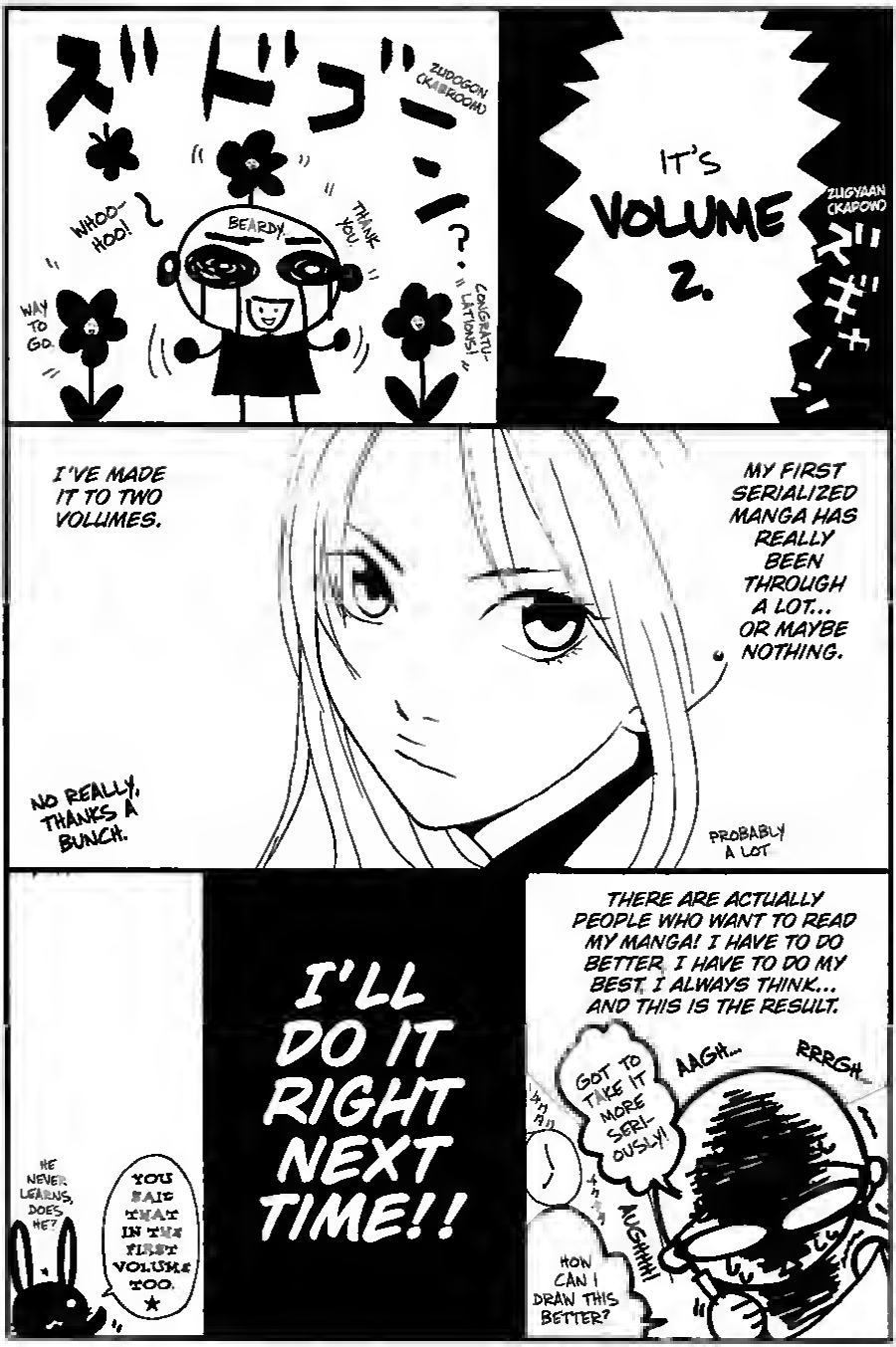

IT'S LIKE, THIS IS JUST THE WAY THINGS ARE IN THE STICKS, Y'KNOW? IT'S ALWAYS GONNA BE LIKE THIS. EVERYTHING'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS...IF THEY JUST STOCKED THE THINGS, THEY'D SELL. BUT THEY DON'T STOCK HARDLY ANY OF 'EM, AND ONLY AFTER THEY GET BIG AROUND THE COUNTRY DO THEY TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.
JUST RECENTLY, THEY RELEASED THE SECOND LINE OF THE SERIES, BUT NONE OF THE STORES IN THE AREA ARE CARRYING THEM.

IT HAPPENED WITH THE FIRST AND SECOND LINE OF THE SERIES... OF COURSE, MAYBE THEY'RE JUST BEHIND ON PRODUCING THEM...
.....
BUT THEIR TIMING IS BAD, SO THEY END UP OVER-STOCKED... AND THE CYCLE REPEATS.

IT'S LIKE THEY CAN'T SEE THE TRENDS, OR JUST DON'T...IS THIS BOUND TO HAPPEN BECAUSE WE'RE IN THE COUNTRY?
BUT THIS STUFF HAPPENS SO OFTEN, IT MAKES ME SICK...
LOOK AT CDs, OR BOOKS, OR CLOTHES, OR SHOES, OR ANYTHING...ALL THE STORES CARRY THE MOST HALF-ASSED SELECTION, AND THERE'S BARELY A SINGLE BUSINESS THAT HAS AN HONEST-TO-GOD AESTHETIC.
AND EVERYBODY SEEMS SATISFIED WITH THAT!
HOW DO I GET RID OF THIS FRUSTRATION!?
AAH!
OR ELSE I'M JUST CRAZY...
I NEED TO UNLEASH THIS FURY ON SOCIETY! ON THINGS! ON OTHER PEOPLE!! I JUST WANNA KILL SOMEONE...
DAMMIT! THIS SUCKS!
OR ELSE THEY'VE JUST GIVEN UP.

BISHI (SMACK)
...ABOUT KILLING ANYONE ...!!
DON'T EVER TALK ...
BF!
ZUDO (ZEWAM)
FOOL!
BUTCHER SLAP?
SFX: SHAKIIN (SHWINGG)
IF I CATCH YOU DOING THAT, I'LL KILL YOU!!
EVERYBODY GET ALONG!!
OKAY?
LOVE TO OUTER SPACE!
PEACE TO THE WORLD!!
FULL OF GOOD VIBRATIONS.
NO USING SUCH FOUL LANGUAGE! IT IS FORBIDDEN!
VERBOTEN!
RAWRR!
GRAAAR!

AFTERWORD
I DIDN'T DO MUCH
THAT'S NO SURPRISE
EVERY TIME YOU SHOW A THING'S BEST (ASPECTS)


ズゴゴゴ…!?
ZUDOGGON (KABROOOM)
BEARDY
WHOO-HOO!
THANK YOU.
CONGRATULATIONS!
WAY TO GO.
IT'S VOLUME 2.
ZUGYAAN (KRAPOW)
ズギャーン
I'VE MADE IT TO TWO VOLUMES.
MY FIRST SERIALIZED MANGA HAS REALLY BEEN THROUGH A LOT... OR MAYBE NOTHING.
NO REALLY, THANKS A BUNCH.
PROBABLY A LOT
I'LL DO IT RIGHT NEXT TIME!!
THERE ARE ACTUALLY PEOPLE WHO WANT TO READ MY MANGA! I HAVE TO DO BETTER. I HAVE TO DO MY BEST. I ALWAYS THINK... AND THIS IS THE RESULT.
AAGH...
RRRGH
GOT TO TAKE IT MORE SERIOUSLY!
AUGHHH!
HOW CAN I DRAW THIS BETTER?
HE NEVER LEARNS, DOES HE?
YOU SAID THAT IN THE FIRST VOLUME TOO. ★

SFX: CHIKUTAKU (TICK-TOCK) CHIKUTAKU

ORIGINALLY, IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE GUSUKU, BUT THE OLD MAN WHO RAISED MAIKO—SILVER TANGE, AN OLD CODGER WHO SPENDS HIS DAYS MANIACALLY CHASING THE LEGENDARY WHITE CATFISH SAID TO LIVE IN LAKE BIWA (AND ALSO GETTING ROCKS THROWN AT HIM BY NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS). THE HEARTWARMING STORY OF AN OLD MAN FULL OF DREAMS AND VINEGAR.
GASA (THUNK)
THE GUY WITH THE LEG
THE "REAL" CHAPTER SIX.
JUST BETWEEN US, SASAMEKE'S SECRETS
1
H-HE'S AWESOME!
MY MASTER!
GRAMPA! ♥
SAME THING GOES FOR THE GLASSES CLAN!!!
(SEE BONUS MATERIALS.)
BUT FOR SOME REASON, IT WAS REJECTED!! ALL BECAUSE OF THE FATAL FLAW OF THE CHAPTER NOT HAVING RAKUICHI IN IT!!
ME!!
END
WHO MADE THIS GUY THE MAIN CHARACTER!!?
WHO WAS IT, CURSE IT!?
SHIKU SOB
SHIKU
BLOOOD
COOL
じょ……

★PC ➔ HTTP://52BROS.COM/ (JAPANESE ONLY)

★ ANTONIO CARLOS TOSHIKI TAGA (17) SECOND-YEAR STUDENT AT CHIKU-BUSHIMA HIGH. BORN IN BRAZIL. MOVED TO JAPAN FIVE YEARS AGO DUE TO HIS PARENTS' WORK SITUATION. HAS YOUNGER QUINTUPLET BROTHERS. SOME SAY HE MIGHT HAVE QUINTUPLET SISTERS AND MIGHT BE A QUINTUPLET HIMSELF. GOOD GUY, LOVES HIS FAMILY.

HEIGHT. 6'
W/HAIR 6'2"

THE END

MANGA: RYUJI X GOTSUBO

SOMEWHAT WITHDRAWN KANSAIAN.

TOTAL LAZY SHLUB

WHO MAKES LAZY MANGA.

HIS FAVORITE TV ANNOUNCER IS JUNICHI SUMI FROM MBS NEWS.

STAFF LIST

ERASER COMMANDO GAIDEN

AMAZING? MASARU-SAN

PLANNING AND CONSTANT VERBAL SNIPING

"GERMAN SCIENTISTS ARE THE GREATEST IN THE WORLD!"

KENKICHI ISHIGASHIRA-SAN

SNOW-REMOVAL STANDBY OFFICER

SASSHI-SAN FROM THE FACILITIES DEPT.

SASAMEKE

BOOKS. YELLOW RANGER LOVES CURRY', BLUE RANGER IS HIROSHI MIYAUCHI, WHISPERS OF YOUTH, SLIPPERY SLIMY SLINKY SLOSHY GHOST TALES OF JAPAN, BOY A, SHONEN ACE, ANTI-MAYONNAISE, I HATE MAYO, PUT OUT VOLUME 3 OF...

SASAMEKE #03

Presented by
RYUJI X GOTSUBO

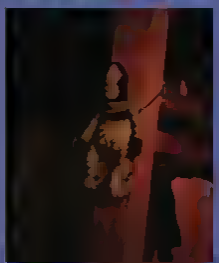
ME KE #03

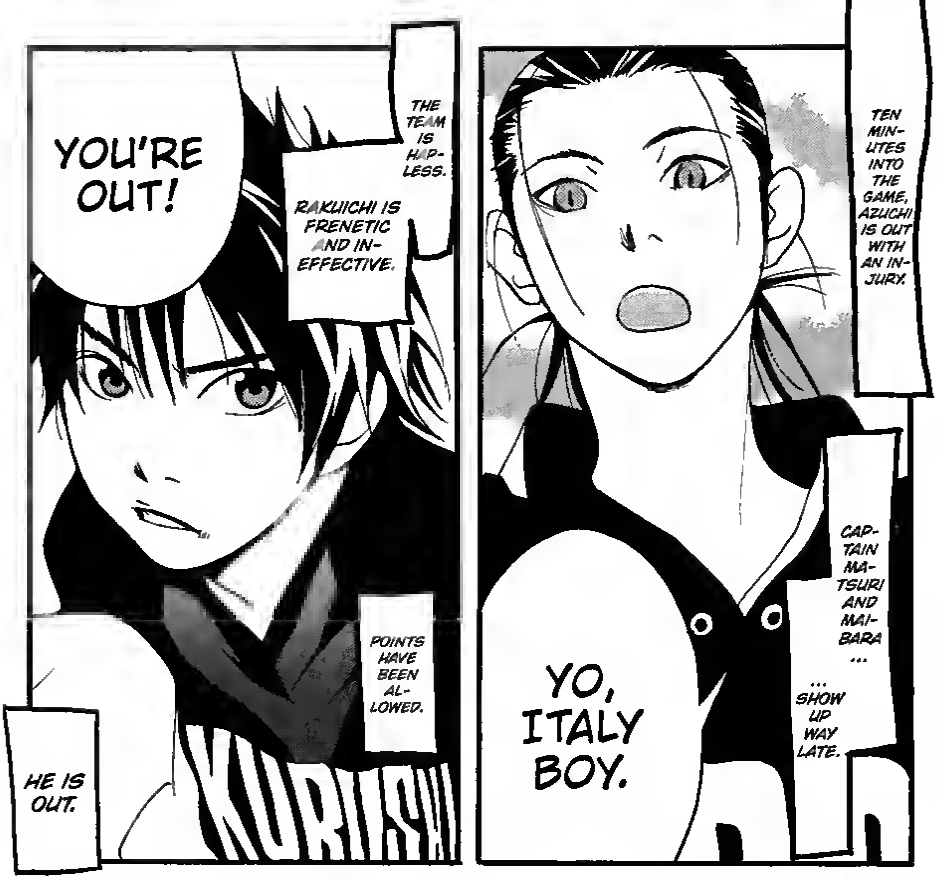
Presented by

RYUJI X GOTSUBO

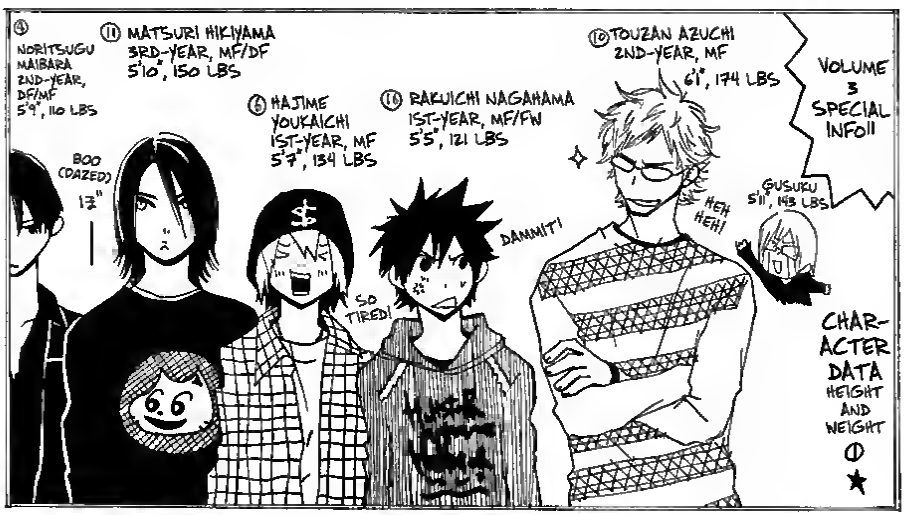
I'M SMASHED!
CHEAP TRICK
SOUL ONA ROLL
SDRDSGN
SDR
I LOVE FOOTBALL
SSMK
SOUL
DEATH ON
A ROLL
ROCK
SDR
SDRDSGN
S A S A

ITALIA




YOU'RE OUT!
THE TEAM IS HAP-LESS.
RAKUICHI IS FRENETIC AND IN-EFFECTIVE.
POINTS HAVE BEEN AL-LOWED.
HE IS OUT.
KURUSU
TEN MIN-UTES INTO THE GAME, AZUCHI IS OUT WITH AN IN-JURY.
CAP-TAIN MA-TSURI AND MAI-BARA ...
... SHOW UP WAY LATE.
YO, ITALY BOY.

#11 MISSING FROM THE CHAIN


④ NORITSUGU MAIBARA 2ND-YEAR, DF/MF 5'9", 110 LBS
⑪ MATSURI HIKIYAMA 3RD-YEAR, MF/DF 5'10", 150 LBS
⑥ HAJIME YOUKAICHI 1ST-YEAR, MF 5'7", 134 LBS
⑯ RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA 1ST-YEAR, MF/FW 5'5", 121 LBS
⑩ TOUZAN AZUCHI 2ND-YEAR, MF 6'1", 174 LBS
VOLUME 3 SPECIAL INFO!!
BOO (DAZED) 13"
SO TIRED!
DAMMIT!
HEH HEH!
GUSUKU 5'11", 143 LBS
CHAR-ACTER DATA HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

#11
MISSING FROM THE CHAIN
AND THEN ...
HERE WE GO!
TOWEL
コキ...
KOKI (CRACK)
TIRED ...
...THE SECOND HALF BEGAN...
ZAN (ZSHH)
4

LET'S KICK SOME ASS, TAKE SOME NAMES, AND GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!!
JA
(SCRAPE)

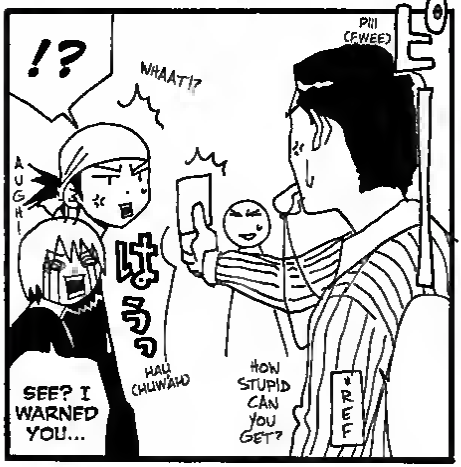
HOW LONG ARE WE GONNA LET THESE DICKS PUSH US AROUND!!!?
LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE, BOILS AND GHOULS!!
"BOILS AND GHOULS"?
HA!
DON'T BE SUCH LOSERS!!

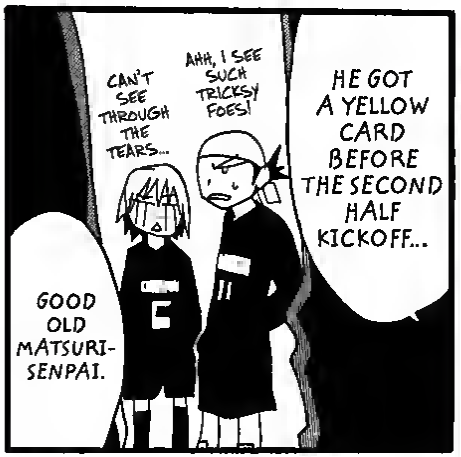
YOU GOT LONG HAIR TOO, BRO
WHO YOU MAD-DOGGIN', LONG-HAIR?
GINURO (SNARING)
NYAHAHA! WHAT?
PEEP!
PEEP!
EEK!!
BY YOUKAICHI

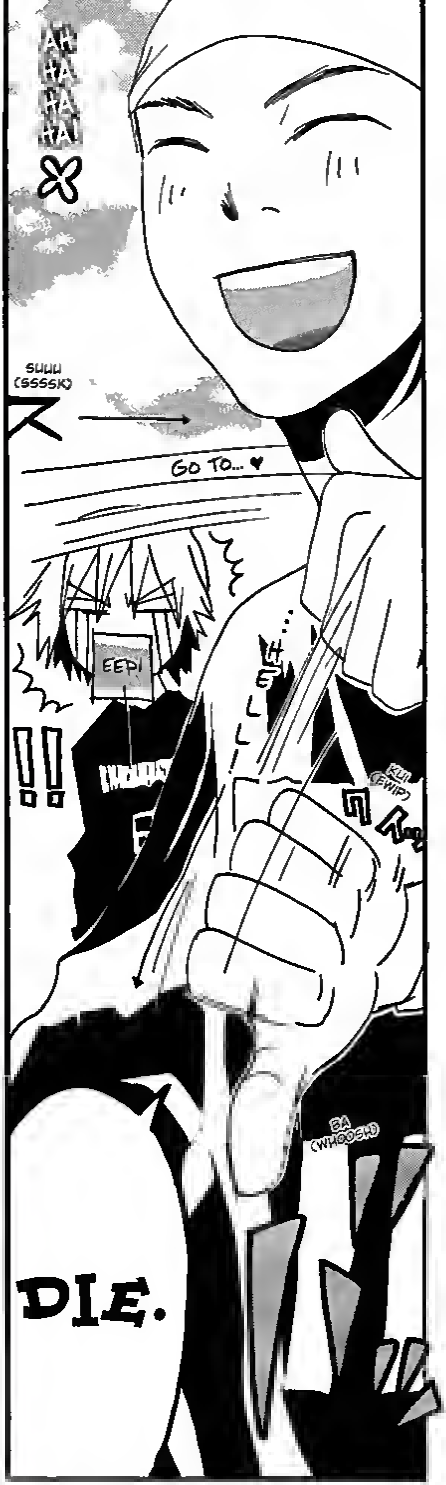
UH, SENPAI? WOULD YOU MIND NOT AGGRAVATING THEM?
AND DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT EITHER.
OH YEAH?
THOSE GUYS PLAY DIRTY. THEY'LL MESS US UP.

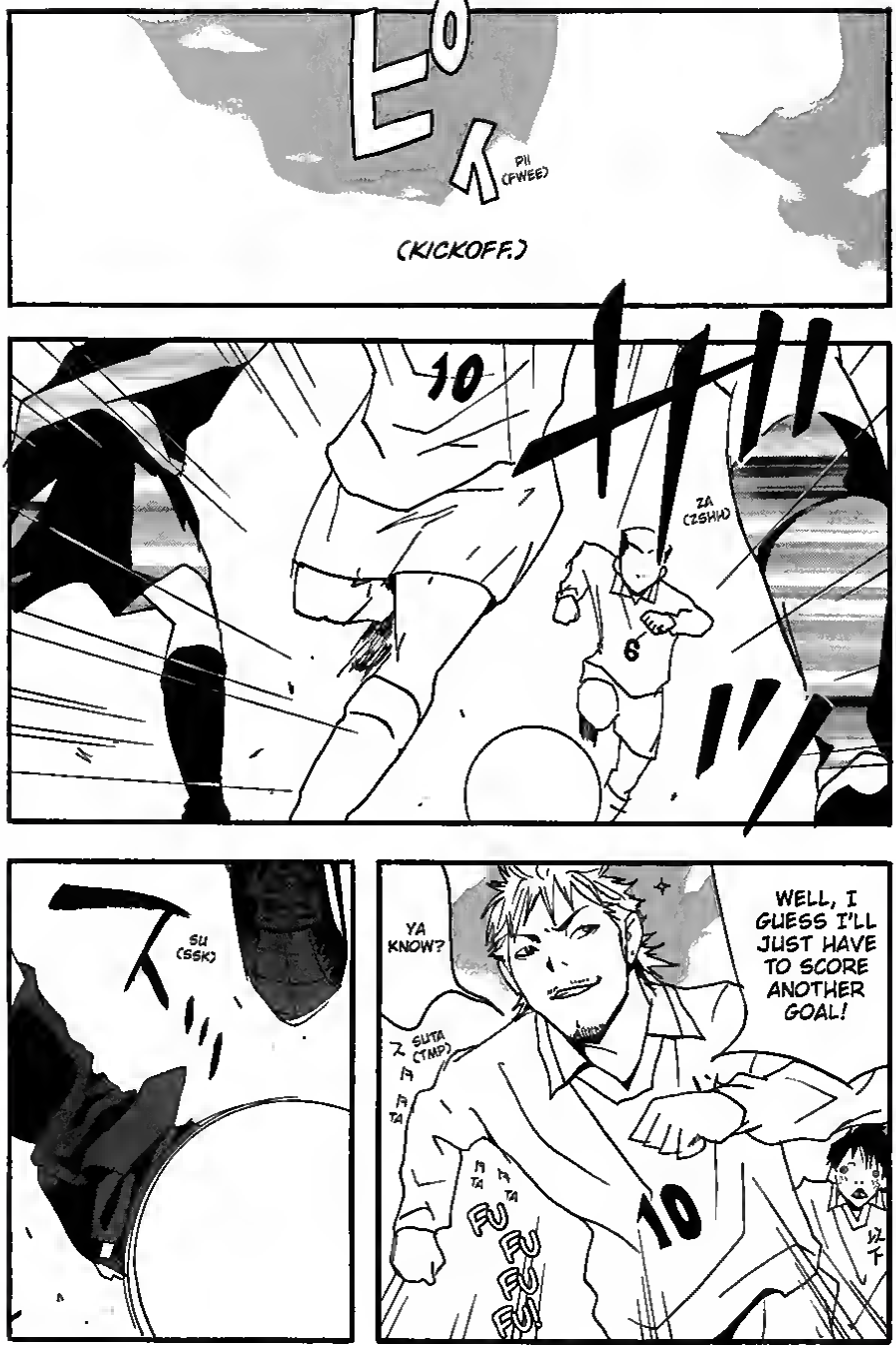
SHIRTS. IKA

!?
THE HELL'S YOUR PROBLEM!?
HISSS!
BITCH!
I'LL CARVE YOU UP.
MUGAAAA (GRRRR)
PEEP!


!?
PIII (FWEE)
WHAAT!?
AUGHI
HAU CHUWAH
HOW STUPID CAN YOU GET?
FREE
SEE? I WARNED YOU...


HE GOT A YELLOW CARD BEFORE THE SECOND HALF KICKOFF...
AHH, I SEE SUCH TRICKSY FOES!
CAN'T SEE THROUGH THE TEARS...
GOOD OLD MATSURI-SENPAI.


AHAHAHA
SUUU (SSSSK)
GO TO... ♥
EEP!
!!
HELL
KUH (FWIP)
BA (WHOOSH)
DIE.


PII (PWEE)
(KICKOFF.)
10
ZA (ZSHH)
SU (SSK)
YA KNOW?
SUTA (TMP)
TA TA TA
TA TA
FU FU FU FU!
WELL, I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO SCORE ANOTHER GOAL!
10
以下

!?
GOAL!!
ZUBA (ZING)
AH, SHIT!
BA (WHAP)...
PASHI (PASS)
.....
HELL, YEAH!
MATSURI!

YOU'D THINK HIM LIKELY TO LAUNCH INTO POINTLESS ONE-MAN STUNTS...
STICK TO THE RIGHT, YOUKA-ICHI!
RAAH!
RAAH!
HE REALLY IS ONE DAMN GOOD PLAYER...
HUH? BUT I ALWAYS SEE HIM WITH THE BALL.
YES, HE COMES *INTO CONTACT* WITH THE BALL FREQUENTLY.
...HIS INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY WITH THE BALL!
...BUT THEN YOU NOTICE...
TON (TAP)

A FAR CRY FROM SOMEONE ELSE AROUND HERE.
PUI (HMPH)
HA HA HA!
...THE AMOUNT OF TIME THAT HE SPENDS CONTROLLING IT IS EXTREMELY SHORT!
ONE OR TWO TOUCHES, AND HE'S PASSED IT AWAY AGAIN.
THE THING IS...
BO (BOOT)
MAYBE YOU'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS YOU'RE LACKING.
.....
RAKU-ICHI.
YOU OUGHT TO WATCH THE WAY MATSURI PLAYS. CLOSELY.

THINGS WERE LIKE THIS IN ITALY TOO...
IT AL-WAYS GETS ...
... LIKE THIS.
GASHAN (CLANK)
EVERYBODY THINKS THEY KNOW EVERYTHING ...
WHY!?
HAA (SIGH)
ZURU (SLIDE)
ZURU
ZURU
GA (SHAKE)
GA
GA
GA
GA
I'M IN ...
GUSHA (SMUNCH)
!!
... PAIN.
WAS I COACH-LIKE OR WHAT BACK THERE!? I TOTALLY FEEL LIKE SOME KIND OF SOCCER COACH!!
EE HE HE!
BUT THEY PLAY TOTALLY DIFFERENT STYLES NOT REALLY VERY GOOD ADVICE FOR HIM.
SHE HAS NO IDEA ...
MWA HA!
*SHE IS THE COACH.

HWAH!
DAMN!
HMPH!
BA (ZIP)
10
6
ZA (TSHU)
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
7
...
YOU OKAY?
GUFUU (SLUMP)
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ANYMORE...
SHIKU (SOB)
PASHI (SNAKK)
10
2
ZUHH
WHY'S MY RHYTHM ALL OFF?
PASU (THOK)
2
10

I DON'T ...
...THINK SO?
PIKA (STOP)
BA (WHOOSH)
CHON (BOINK)
SPX TEIN CTON
MAI-BARA!!
BA (ZIP)
DOWN-FIELD!
BO (BOOT)
GA
GA (THUD)
NICE PASS!
PASHI (SNATCH)
'COURSE HMPH
GYAK!
HAWAII

THE OTHER TEAM WAS ON THE ROPES AFTER #10 WENT DOWN. SUDDENLY THIS #11 COMES IN, AND THEY'RE BACK ON THEIR FEET! IN FACT, HE MIGHT BE EVEN BETTER THAN #10. WHO IS THIS KID?
SENSEI, THIS GAME COULD BE GETTING OUT OF HAND.
COACH
GRR...
GET BACK, GUYS!
GIMME
19
ENEMY BENCH
IF THEY GET HIM ON THE FIELD WITH #10 AND #11 AT THE SAME TIME, THIS TEAM COULD DO SOME DAMAGE.
9
THAT #4 DEFENDER IS PRETTY GOOD TOO...
ZA (ZSHH)
SHIT!
17
4
LOT HIM AGAIN!

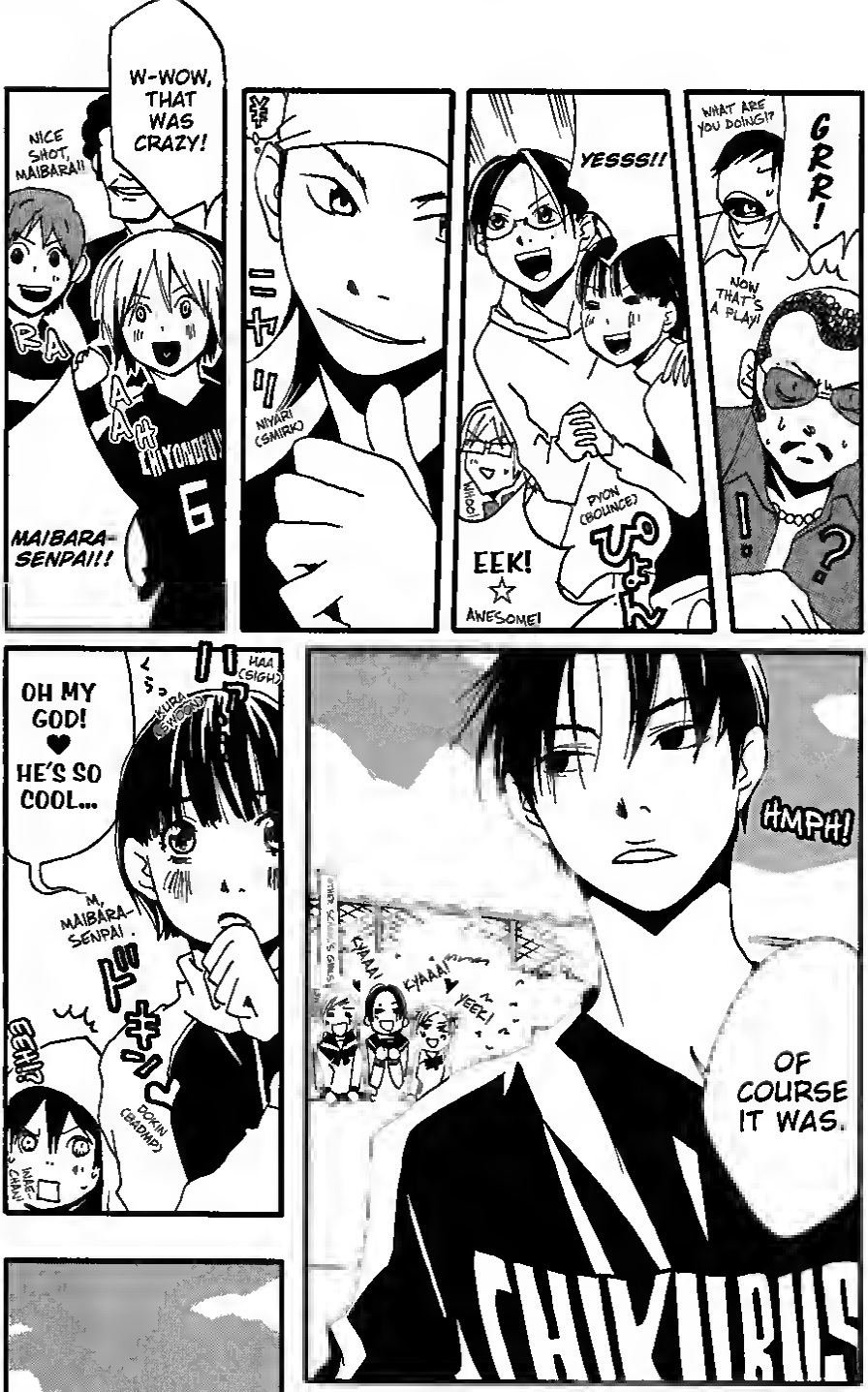
BACHIN (KAPOWN)
GUH!
TCH!
KYU (TWEAK)
SFX: ZUZAA (SLIDE)
DIE!
TON (THUMP)
THE BALL BOUNCED BACK TO HIM!?
NO WAY!

DA (DASH)
NI (GRIND)
!!!
WHOA!
NICE MOVE!
GU (CLENCH)
OH MY
!
NICE...
...PASS!!
HERE'S ONE MORE!
BON (BOOT)
WHO...!
DOHYU (SWOOSH)
OH SHIT! WHAT A KICK!!

VERY NATURAL DIALOGUE

OKAY.
DAMN ME IF HE AIN'T GOOD, THOUGH ...
YAAAY! Good! Good!
OOOH, MATSURI-SENPAI!
THAT #4 GUY TOO.
WHICH ONE?
DOKI (HEARTBEAT)
ドキ
ドキ
DOKI
#8?
HE MIGHT COME AROUND THE LEFT OF #11...
SUIKA
PII
NO, WAIT! IT'S #11!!
CHON (TAP)
ちょん

BASU (PWAP)
GASA (RUSTLE)
!?
KUROUSH
4
BA (ZIP)
SU (SWISH)
!!?
DO (DOOM)


W-WOW, THAT WAS CRAZY!
NICE SHOT, MAIBARA!!
MAIBARA-SENPAI!!
NIYARI (SMIRK)
YESSS!!
WHOO!
PYON (BOUNCE)
EEK!
AWESOME!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
GRR!
NOW THAT'S A PLAY!
OH MY GOD!
HE'S SO COOL...
KUPA (SIGH)
M, MAIBARA-SENPAI
DOKIN (BADUMP)
EEEEE
HMPH!
OF COURSE IT WAS.
CHIKUBUS

AND MATSURI-SENPAI WAS REALLY FAR UP ON THAT PLAY...
LIKE A FORWARD
YES.
HE'S NOT TOO SHABBY WITH THE SHOT ON GOAL!
YEAH!
WOULD YOU NOT KNOW THAT?
AND WHY
MATSURI'S SHOWING SOME TALENT TOO!
GOOD!
GOOD!
THERE WE GO!
THAT'S THE WAY!
BISH! (WHAP)
SORT OF LIKE THIS...
THANKS TO HIS EXCELLENT CONTROL OVER THE TEAM'S DEFENSE, IT MAKES IT EASIER FOR #11 TO RANGE FORWARD.
LIKE HE'S RIGHT UNDER THE TOP OF THE PITCH, RATHER THAN DEFENSIVE MIDFIELDER
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF #4.
CORRECT!
DON (DING)
DON (DONG)
IS IT BECAUSE THIS WOMAN...IS SO BLINDLY INCOMPE-TENT?
KILL 'EM!
GET 'EM SPITTIN' UP BLOOD!!
KEH!
KEH!
KEH!
KEH!
GISHAA CHISU
BUT NOW I HAVE TO WONDER...IF THIS TEAM HAS ALWAYS HAD THESE GREAT PLAYERS, WHY WAS IT SO BAD?
THEY'VE HAD TOUZAN TOO

...THIS #4 IS ONE HELL OF A PLAYER.
FU FU FU.
NIYA CGRIND
ON THE OTHER HAND...
4
...THESE KIDS AREN'T MEANT TO WASTE AWAY IN A DUMP LIKE THIS.
FIRST MATSURI HIKIYAMA, NOW THIS GUY...
...WAIT, HUH?
BATHROOM BREAK?
GONE.
ADD TOUZAN AND NAGAHAMA-KUN, AND WE'VE GOT OURSELVES A TEAM.
POUND ANOTHER GOAL IN THERE, SUCK-ERS!
YET ANOTHER HOT GUY ON THE TEAM...
DOKI (THMP) DOKI
AND I'VE ALREADY GOT AZUCHI SENSAI - WHAT'S A GIRL TO DO?
IF YOU FEEL LIKE—
KURURI (SPIN) 2222
NAGA-HAMA-KUN.

SIGN: PUBLIC SPORTS FIELD
YOU'RE OUT!
MAYBE YOU'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS YOU'RE LACKING.
TCH!
KARI (SIGH)
ZA (ZSH)
KAA (BLUSH)
SNIFF!
WAAAH!
TA (TAP) TA TA TA TA..
WAAHHH!
PANGS OF YOUTH, FIDO
MEOW!
YEOW!
DOTTAAN (SPLAT)
OH DEAR!
GA (TRIP)
PANT! PANT! PANT!
DAMN!
DASSHU (DASH)
PANT! PANT!
SU (SSK)
BY THE END OF THE SECOND HALF...

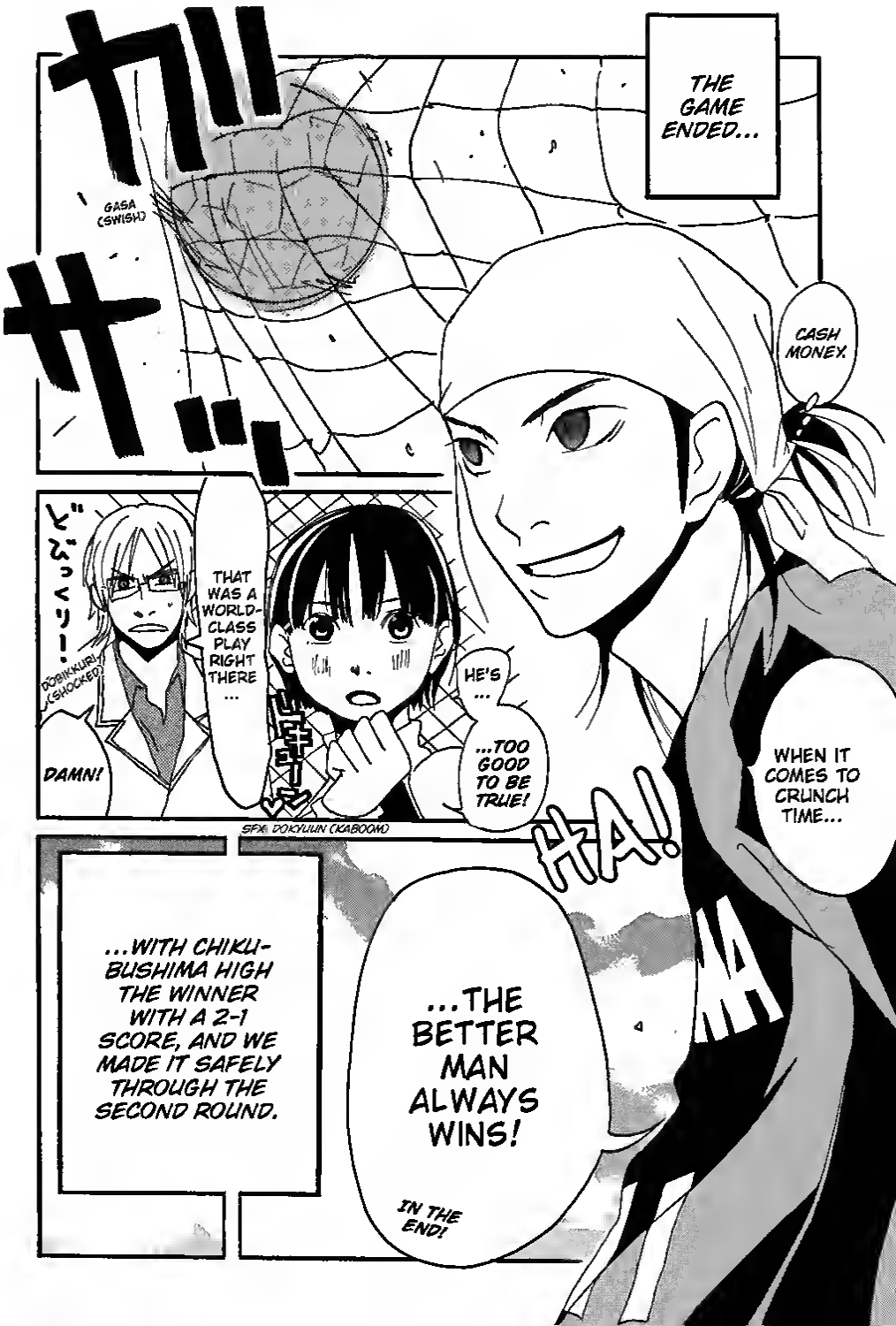
...THE GAME WAS COMPLETELY UNDER THE CONTROL...
...OF TWO PLAYERS.
BA (ZIP)
KYAAAA!
THERE'S MORE!!
UGH!
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH THOSE FORWARDS!?
THEY BLOW!!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PICKED THEM
BIWAKO'S RAGE WAS AT ITS PEAK.
WANA (TREMBLE)
WANA
YET ...
...THE OVERALL INEPTNESS OF THE TWO FORWARDS, #9 TAKATSUKI AND #7 SHINOHARA, KEPT THE OFFENSE RELATIVELY STAGNANT.
TAKATSUKI
2ND YEARS
SHINOHARA
TOTALLY SUCCKS
OKAY IN THE POST AND FUL AT SHOOTING
9

HAA
SEN...
I WANT HUSTLE!
HUSTLE!
HEY! NO SLACKIN' OFF WHILE THE GAME'S STILL ON!
EVEN THE GREATEST PLAYERS HAVE THEIR WEAKNESSES! AND THIS THING IS STILL TIED UP!!
GATA (THUD)
CAN'T GET THE BALL!
TA
TA (TMP)
HAA
HAA (PANT)
10
WHO IS THAT #11!?
*HE MEANS SENSEI
HE'S GOT SOME GOOD ADVICE... UNLIKE SOMEONE I KNOW.
KILL 'EM ALL!
SOMEONE
HANG IN THERE! DON'T YOU GIVE UP ON THIS GAME!!
YEAH!
FIVE MIN-UTES LEFT!
10
GA (THWAK)

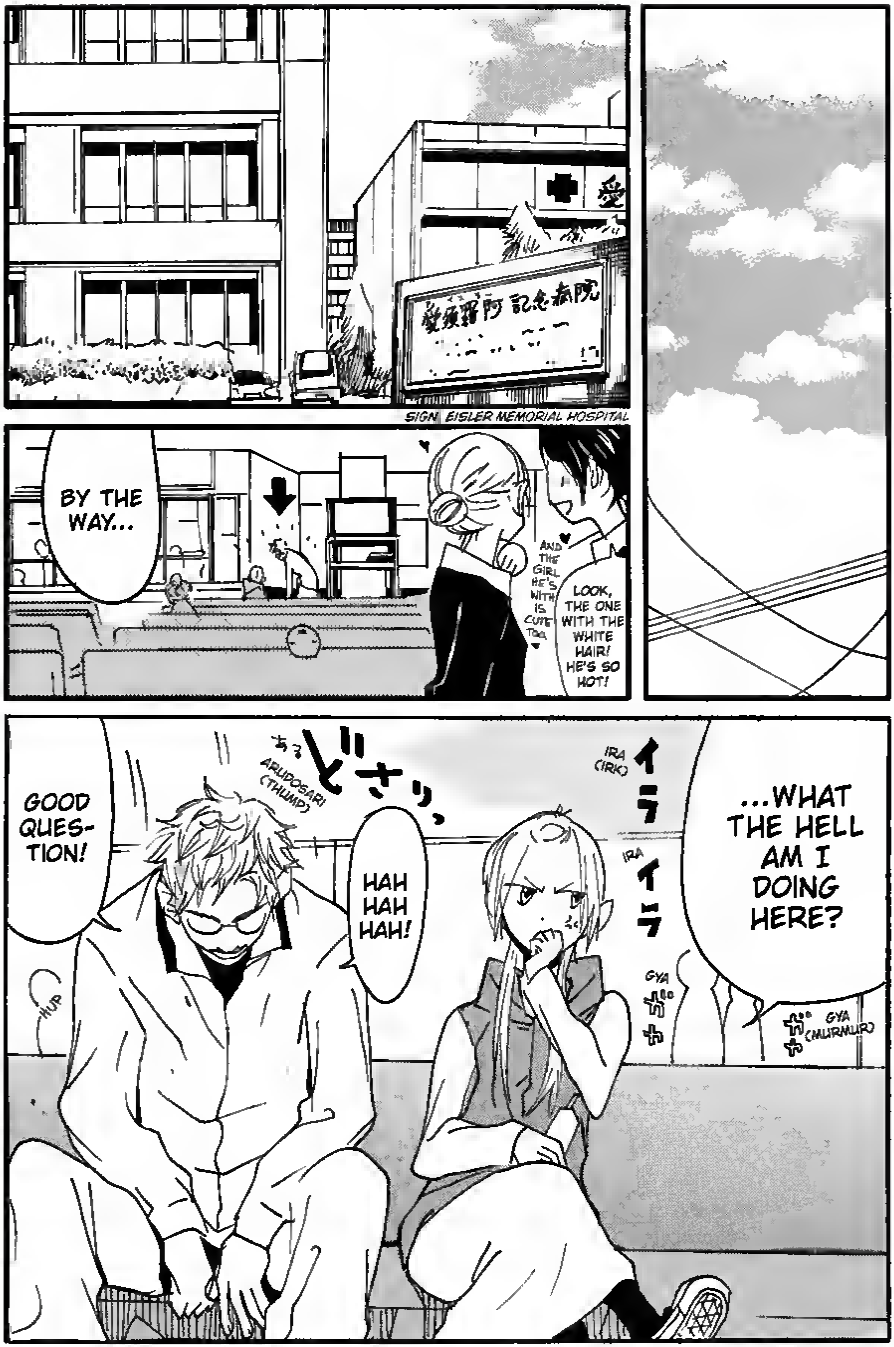
I AIN'T GOIN' DOWN IN THE FRICKIN' SECOND ROUND!!
ZUBA CZOOM
AWW! I LOST THE BALL AGAIN!
MOVE IT!
I BEEN BUSTIN' MY BALLS ON THIS TEAM FOR THREE WHOLE YEARS!
10
BA CZIP!
!!
CHIKUBUSHI
4
BA

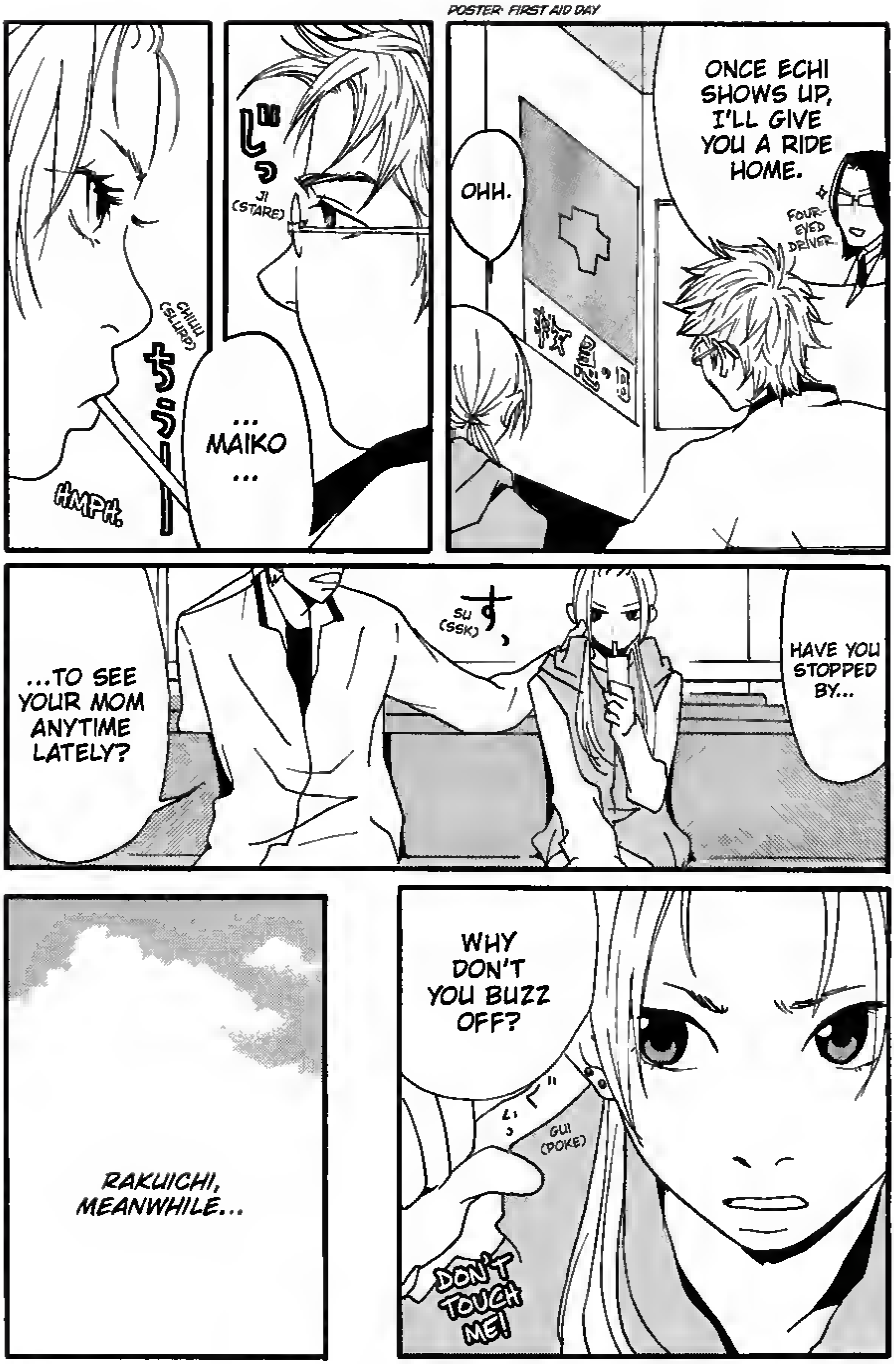
ZA (ZSHH)
DOYHU (OMFF)

GOOO!
WHAT!? FROM THAT DISTANCE!?
NO WAY.
ON ONE TOUCH ...!?
ARE YOU KID-DING ME?
GYURURURU (VRUUUUUR)
SUTATA (DASH)
スタタ…
チュイル
MATSU-RIIII!!
GOT IT!
DOKYU (SHHH)

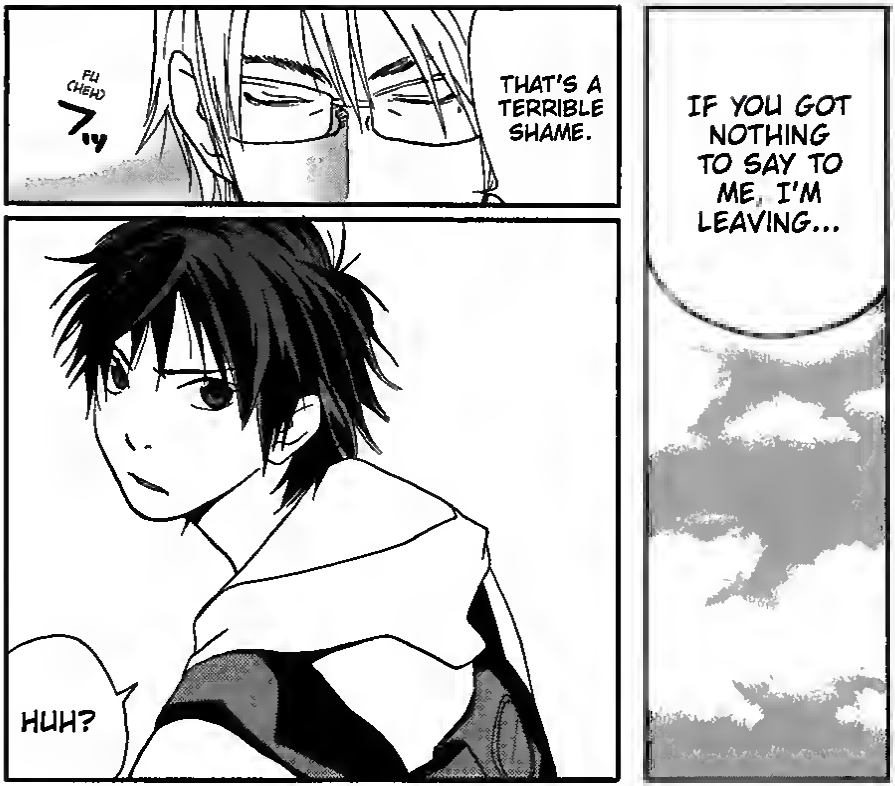

THE GAME ENDED...
GASA (SWISH)
CASH MONEY.
WHEN IT COMES TO CRUNCH TIME...
HA!
HA
...THE BETTER MAN ALWAYS WINS!
IN THE END!
...WITH CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH THE WINNER WITH A 2-1 SCORE, AND WE MADE IT SAFELY THROUGH THE SECOND ROUND.
DOBIKKURI (SHOCKED)
DAMN!
THAT WAS A WORLD-CLASS PLAY RIGHT THERE...
HE'S...
...TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!
SFX: DOKYUUN (KABOOM)

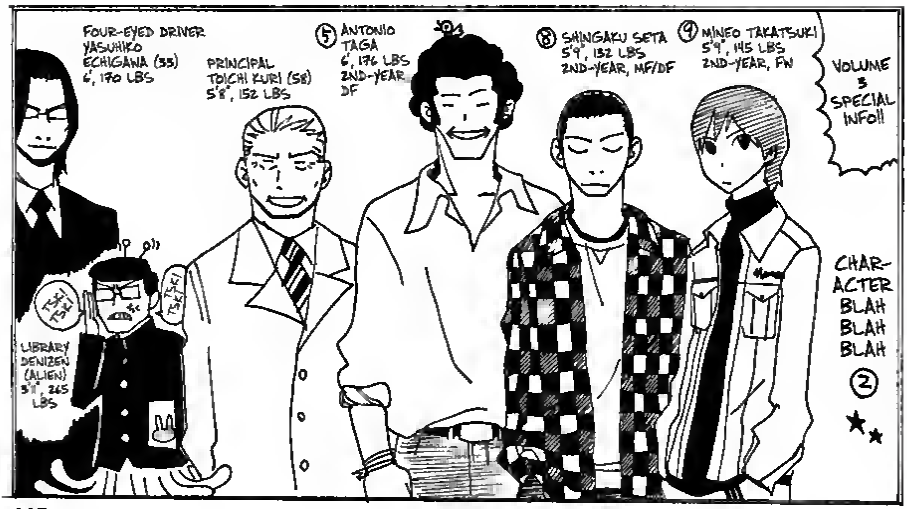
HMPH.
AH!?
PEKIRI (SNAP)
SAME GOES TO YOU, MAIBA—
PISHI (SNATCH)
SHEESH! DON'T KEEP ME ON PINS AND NEEDLES LIKE THAT!
PASHI (SMACK)
OUCH
WHO CARES? WE WON IN THE END!
WHAT A HUNK!
GAAN (SHOCK)
HOW RUDE...
SFX: SUTA (STRIDE) SUTA
AH!
HAUA (GASP)
DWA-HA-HA-HA!
AZUCHI WENT OFF, TOO!
MAYBE THEY'RE TAKIN' A PEE TOGETHER.
HEY, WHERE'S NAGAHAMA?
SPEAKING OF...
WELL, AT LEAST I CAN SAY ONE THING: WE'RE THROUGH THE SECOND ROUND!!
YEAAAH!
WHICH HOSPITAL DID THEY TAKE HIM TO?
HARA (SNIFF)
HARA
UUH...
WHO CARES ABOUT ALL THIS POINTLESS GARBAGE? I NEED TO KNOW IF AZUCHI-SENPAI IS OKAY!
DOOR: NAGA-HAMA
INAE FORGOT WHILE MAIBARA WAS PLAYING.

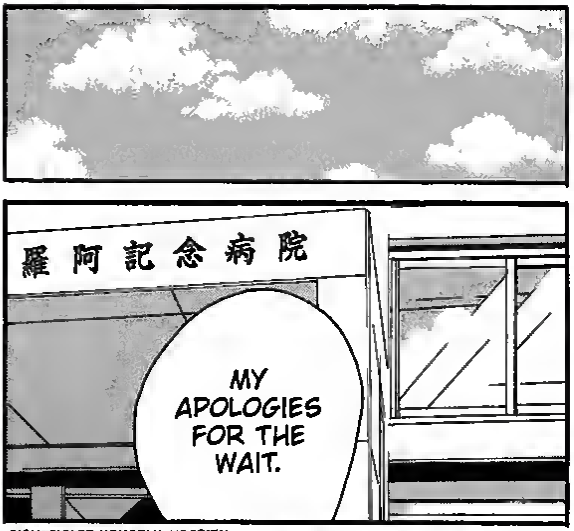

愛
SIGN: EISLER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
BY THE WAY...
LOOK, THE ONE WITH THE WHITE HAIR! HE'S SO HOT!
AND THE GIRL HE'S WITH IS CUTE TOO.
...WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING HERE?
IRA (IRIKO)
イラ
IRA
イラ
GYA (KALIRHALIRO)
ガ°ちゃ
GYA
ガ°ちゃ
HAH HAH HAH!
ARUPOSARI (THUMP)
ドサッ
GOOD QUES-TION!
HUP


POSTER: FIRST AID DAY
ONCE ECHI SHOWS UP, I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE HOME.
FOUR-EYED DRIVER
OHH.
JI (STARE)
CHUUU (SUCKS)
HMPH.
...MAIKO...
HAVE YOU STOPPED BY...
SU (SSK)
...TO SEE YOUR MOM ANYTIME LATELY?
WHY DON'T YOU BUZZ OFF?
GUI (POKE)
DON'T TOUCH ME!
RAKUICHI, MEANWHILE...

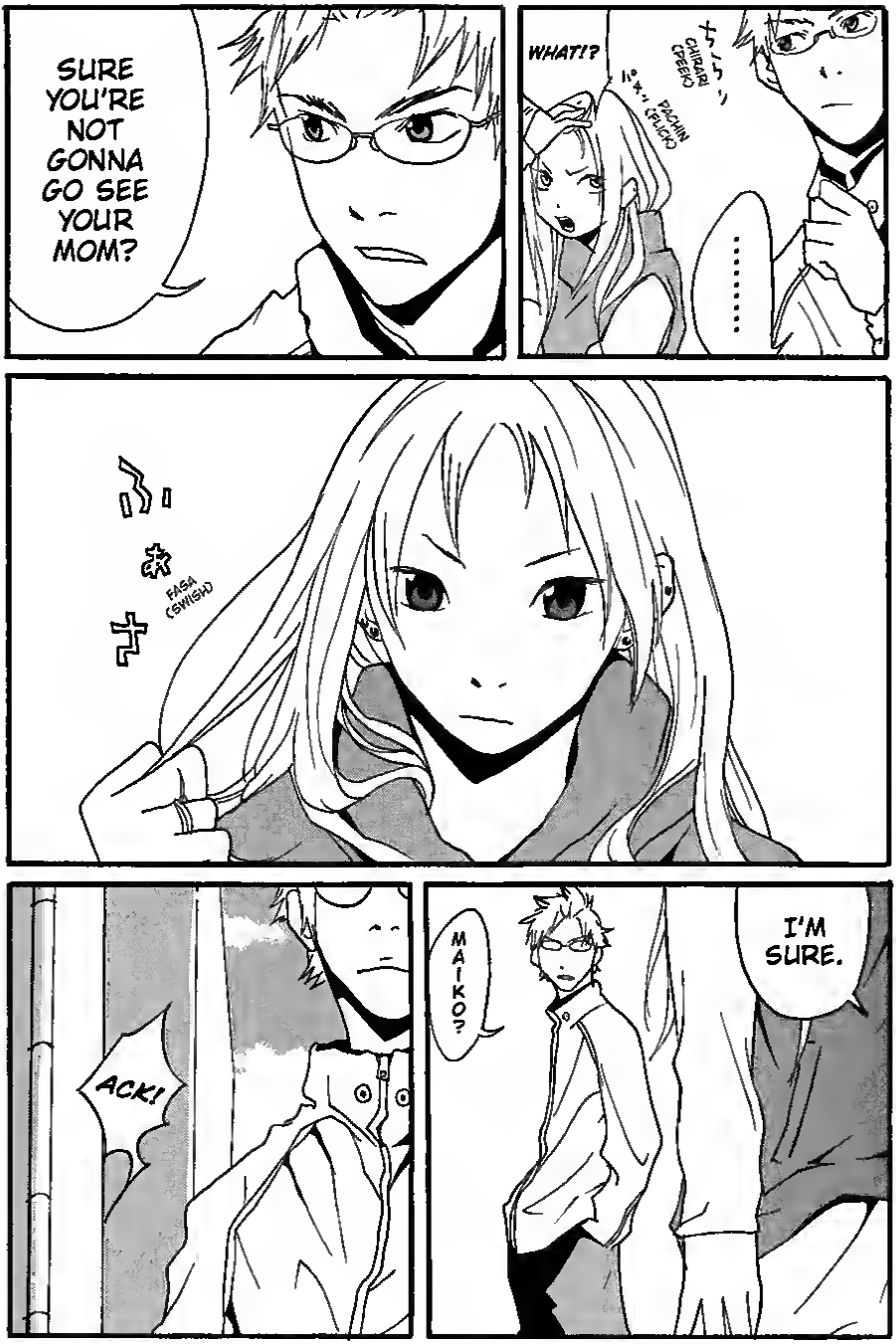
...WAS STRICKEN AND FORLORN.
HYUUU (WHOOSH)
GUSUN (SNIFF)
MY HEART...
IS COLD
HUFF!
HUFF!
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
...RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA.
SU (SSK)
WAH! WAH!
BIKU (FLINCH)
SO HERE YOU ARE...
!!
AND YOU ARE?
GAAAN (SHOCK)
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS ACT LIKE YOU KNOW ME?
WITH YOUR PUNK-ASS THREADS
MEEEOW!
HUFF HUFF
UHH...

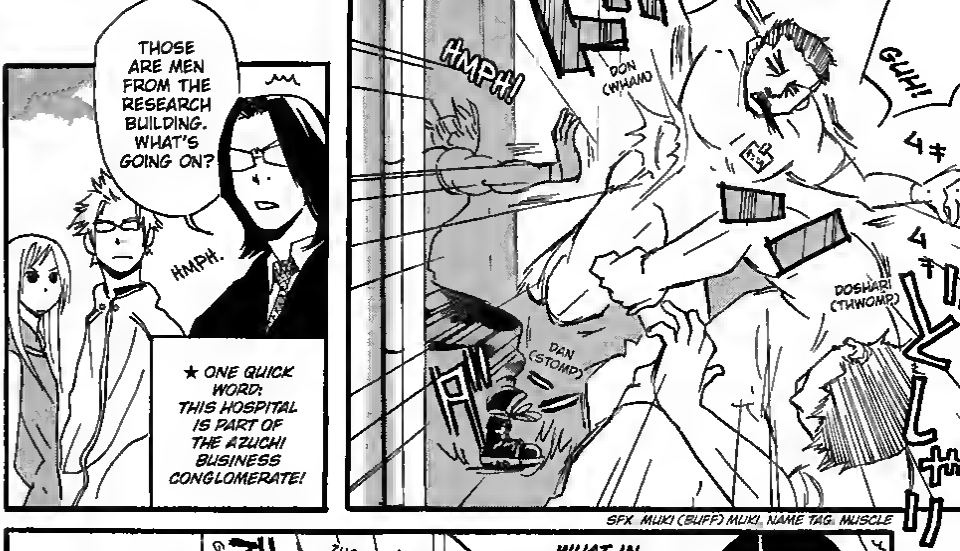

FU CHEW
THAT'S A TERRIBLE SHAME.
HUH?
IF YOU GOT NOTHING TO SAY TO ME, I'M LEAVING...


FOUR-EYED DRIVER
YASUHIKO ECHIGANA (33)
6', 190 LBS
PRINCIPAL
TOICHI KURI (58)
5'8", 152 LBS
⑤ ANTONIO TAGA
6', 176 LBS
2ND-YEAR, DF
⑧ SHINGAKU SETA
5'9", 132 LBS
2ND-YEAR, MF/DF
⑨ MINEO TAKATSUKI
5'9", 145 LBS
2ND-YEAR, FW
VOLUME 3 SPECIAL INFO!!
CHAR-ACTER BLAH BLAH BLAH ②
LIBRARY DENIZEN (ALIEN)
5'1", 265 LBS
ZZZT ZZZT
ZZZT ZZZT



SIGN: EISLER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL


SURE YOU'RE NOT GONNA GO SEE YOUR MOM?
WHAT!?
CHIRARI (PEEK)
PACHIN (PLUCK)
.....
FASA (SWISH)
ACK!
MAIKO?
I'M SURE.

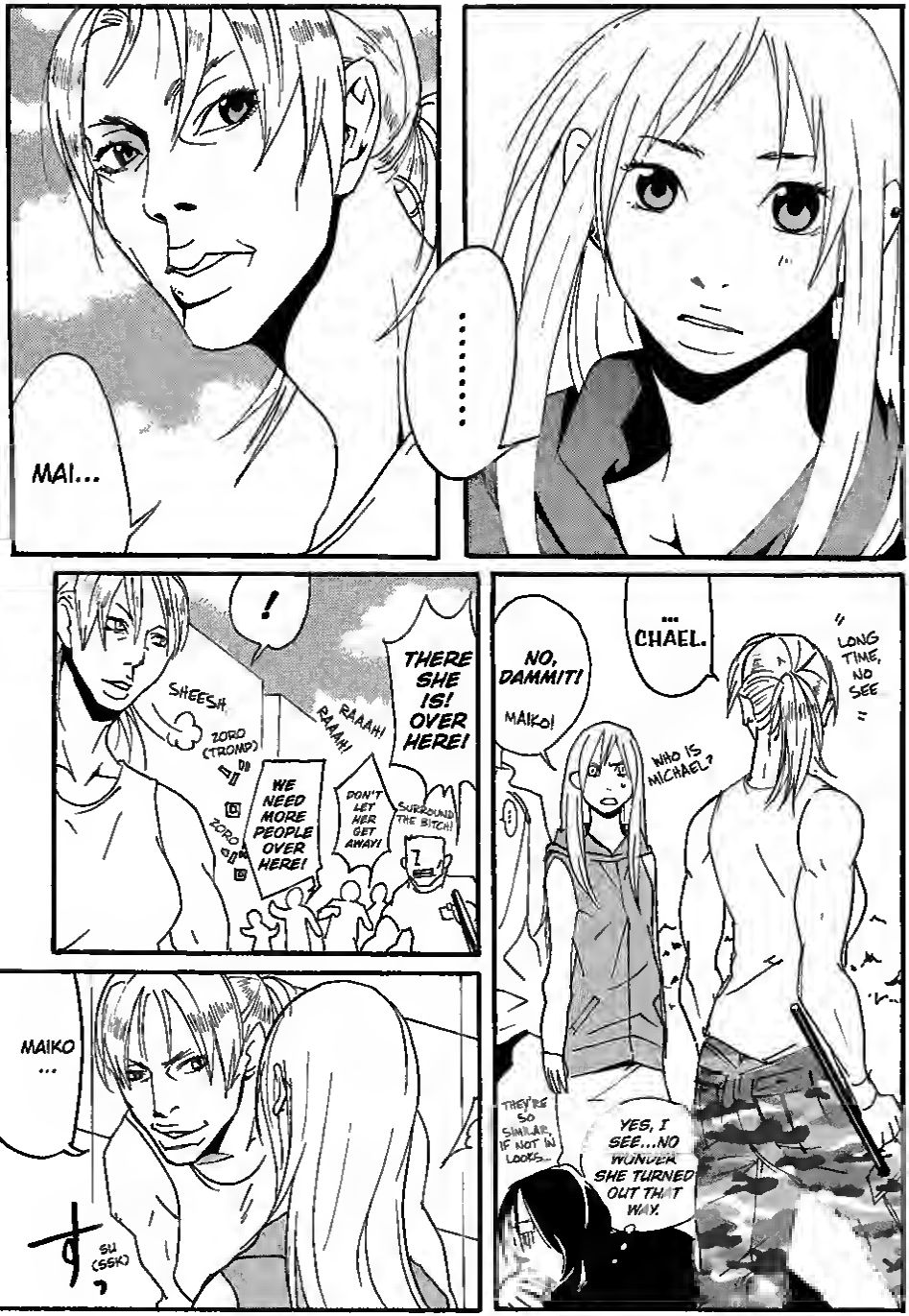

THOSE ARE MEN FROM THE RESEARCH BUILDING. WHAT'S GOING ON?
HMPH.
★ ONE QUICK WORD: THIS HOSPITAL IS PART OF THE AZUCHI BUSINESS CONGLOMERATE!
HMPH!
DON (WHAM)
GUH!
DOSHARI (THWOMP)
DAN (STOMP)
SFX: MUKI (BUFF) MUKI, NAME TAG: MUSCLE

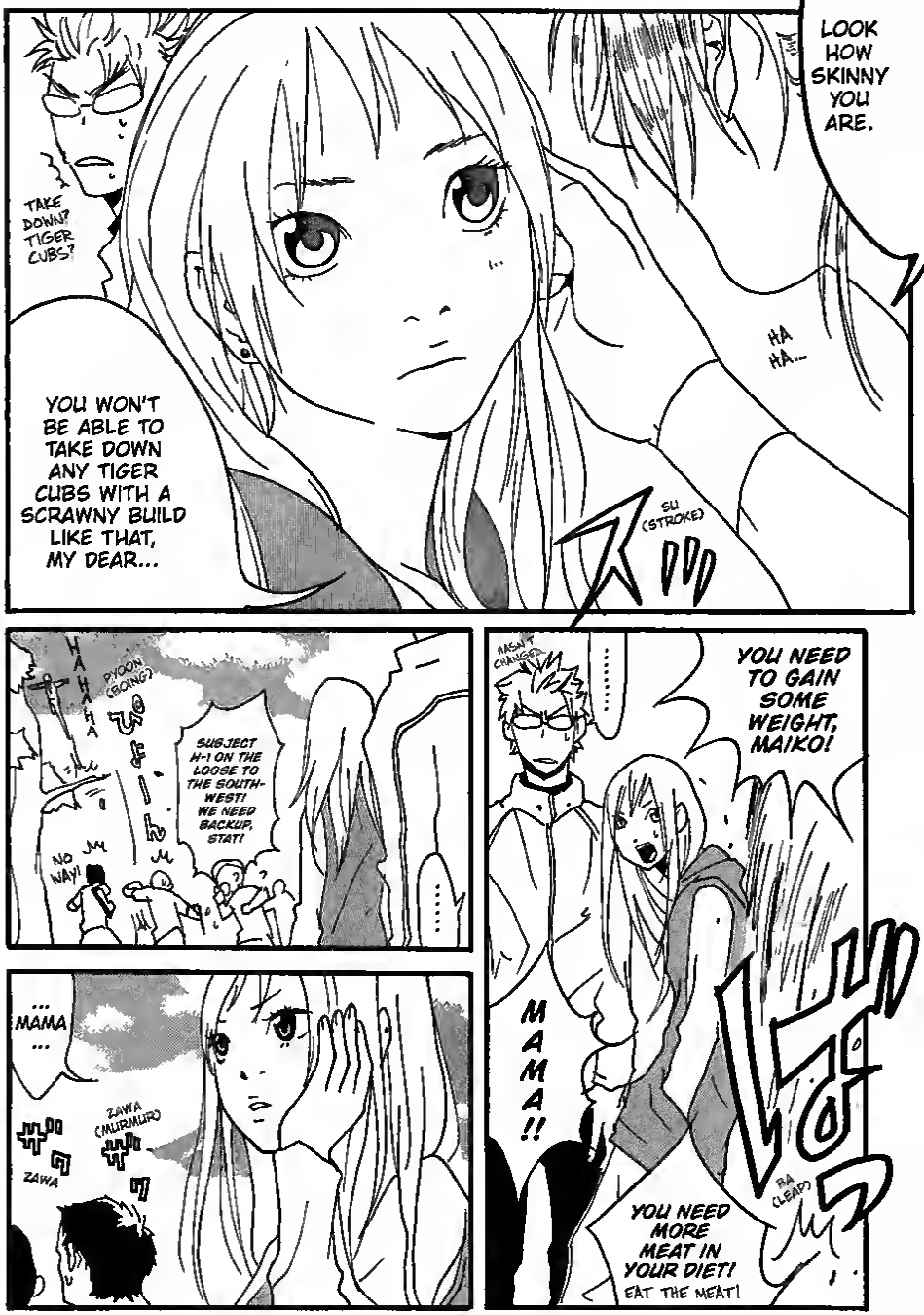
★ TWO QUICK WORDS: THEY'RE ALSO INVOLVED WITH SOME SHADY STUFF THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO GET OUT, WHICH IS WHY THEY HAVE THESE GUYS!!
GUH!
ZUGA (ZWAKK)
HYAH!
WHAT IN THE WORLD!? OUR ELITE MUSCLE-WARRIOR NURSEMEN ARE BEING CRUSHED LIKE HELPLESS BABIES!!
GHFK!
HYAH!
WHO COULD THIS BE, HANDLING OUR STALWART SOLDIERS SO SKILLFULLY!?
HISSSSS!
GRAAAH!
MY GOD!
BUH!

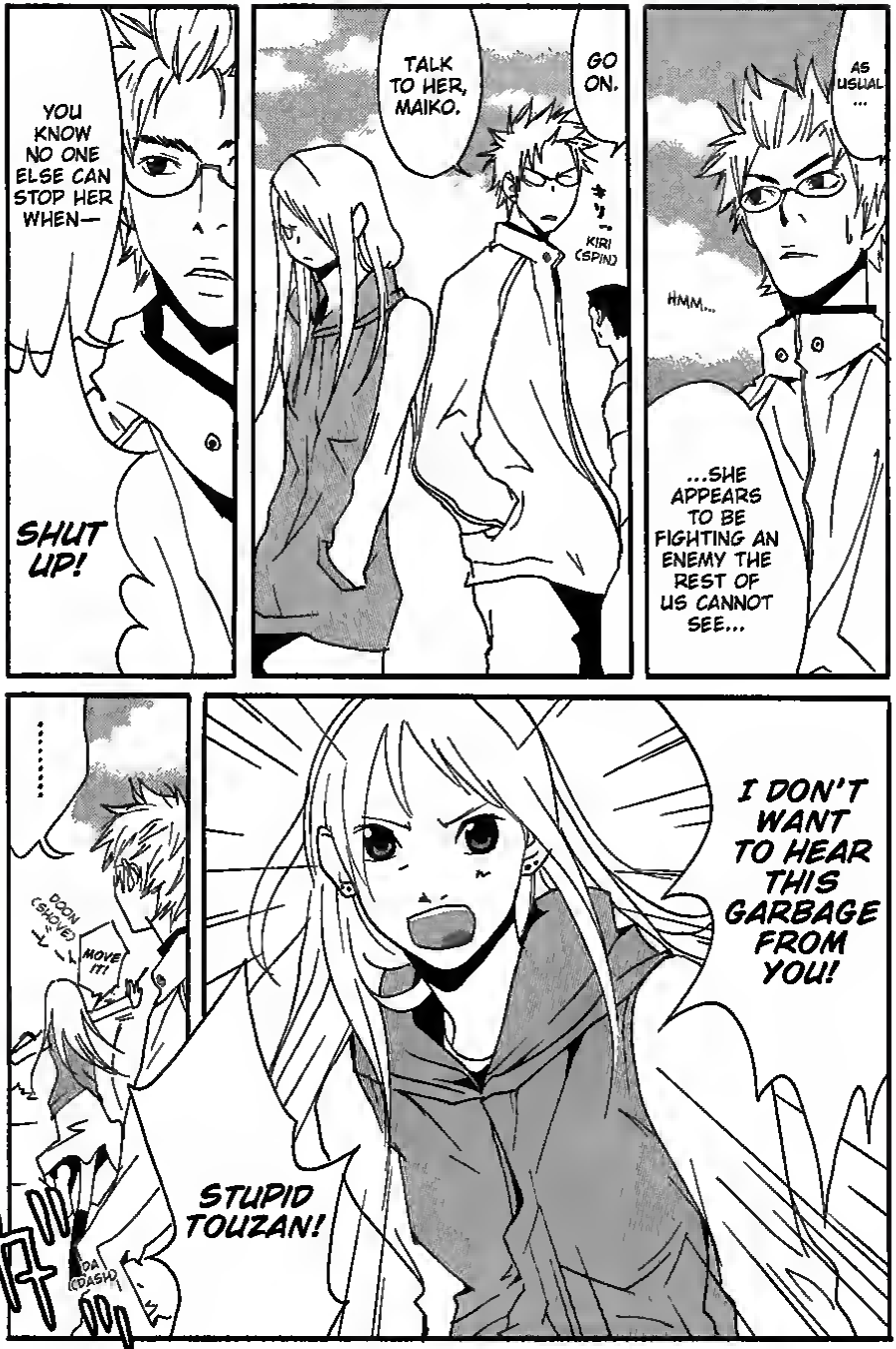
STAY WELL BACK!
WAS HE ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
WATCH OUT, YOU TWO!

!
BA (WHOOSH)
!!
!?
BO (BFF)
SEI!
SU (SWISH)
DOFU (DWOMP)
DON (BOOM)
RUN FOR IT, ECHI!

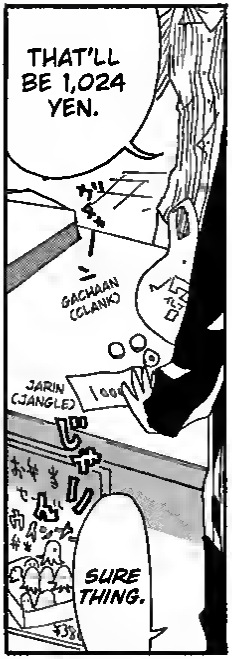
HE'S GOT THE RIGHT IDEA, BUT NOT THE SKILLS.
FUU (SIGH)
BA (ZIP)
HYU (SWISH)
HYOITTO (PLOP)
ECHI-GAWA!!
DOSA (PLOP)
TON (TMP)
MAMA!
...MA'AM!
I... SEE..

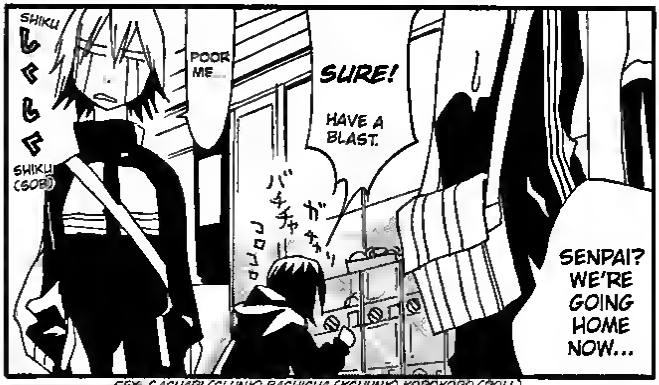

MAI...
.....
!
SHEESH
ZORO (TROMP)
ZORO
WE NEED MORE PEOPLE OVER HERE!
RAAAH!
RAAAH!
DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!
THERE SHE IS! OVER HERE!
SURROUND THE BITCH!
MAIKO
...
...CHAEL.
NO, DAMMIT!
MAIKO!
WHO IS MICHAEL?
"LONG TIME, NO SEE."
THEY'RE SO SIMILAR, IF NOT IN LOOKS...
YES, I SEE...NO WONDER SHE TURNED OUT THAT WAY.
MAIKO ...
SU (SSK)


LOOK HOW SKINNY YOU ARE.
HA HA...
TAKE DOWN? TIGER CUBS?
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE DOWN ANY TIGER CUBS WITH A SCRAWNY BUILD LIKE THAT, MY DEAR...
SU (STROKE)
HAHAHA
PYOON (BOING)
SUBJECT H-1 ON THE LOOSE TO THE SOUTH-WEST! WE NEED BACKUP, STAT!
NO WAY!
HASN'T CHANGED
YOU NEED TO GAIN SOME WEIGHT, MAIKO!
MAMA!!
YOU NEED MORE MEAT IN YOUR DIET! EAT THE MEAT!
HA (LEAP)
...MAMA...
ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA


AS USUAL...
HMM...
...SHE APPEARS TO BE FIGHTING AN ENEMY THE REST OF US CANNOT SEE...
GO ON.
キリ KIRI (SPIN)
TALK TO HER, MAIKO.
YOU KNOW NO ONE ELSE CAN STOP HER WHEN—
SHUT UP!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THIS GARBAGE FROM YOU!
.....
DOON (SHOVE)
MOVE IT!
STUPID TOUZAN!
DA (DASH)

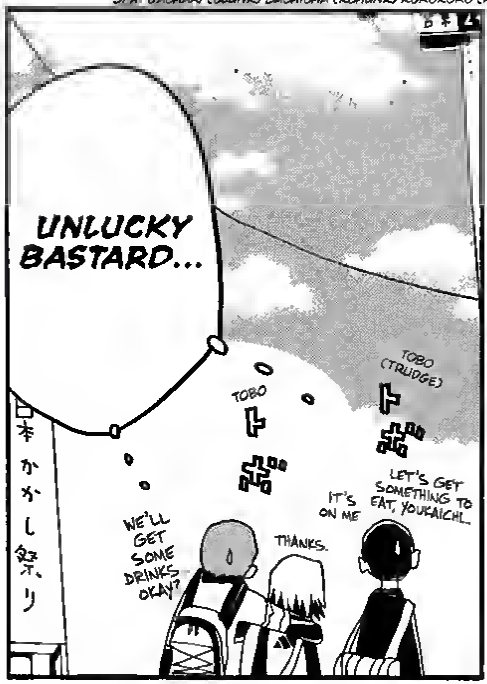
...WHO KNEW THAT NAGAHAMA WAS SUCH A RIDICULOUSLY SPOILED BRAT?
FUU (SIGH)
YEAH, THAT WAS DISAP-POINTING ...
PAGE (FLIP)
SO ANYWAY ...
7
24
PAPER: SPECIAL: NANGO FISHERIES / CENTER MAGAZINES: ENGLISH, KAJIKAJI SIGN: 7-ELEVEN QUIK MART OPEN 24 AND A HALF HOURS
STUPID BUTT.
IT'S ALL ABOUT COOPER-ATION!!
HAA (SIGH)
HE JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF COOPERATION!
MATSURI-SENPAI LOSES ALL SENSE OF IDENTITY AND PLACE WHEN HE'S INSIDE A MINI-MART OR A TOY STORE! HE CAN'T HEAR A WORD I'M SAYING!!
I'VE HEARD ABOUT THIS!
IT'S LIKE HE'S IN SOME KIND OF DRUG-FUELED TRANCE! SCARY!
BOSYAAN (SWAAK)
HUH!?
WAIT.
FU FU FU...
RIGHT, MATSURI-SENPAI?
HAA
KYUIIIN (SPARKLE)
HMM, 400-YEN BLIND BOXES! A PRICE NO CHILD CAN AFFORD! BUT OH, HOW I WANT IT! I WANT I WANT I WANT!!
RIGHT ONE'S HEAVIER
PACKETS: SPOOKS & GOBLIN CARDS - WITH FIGURINE

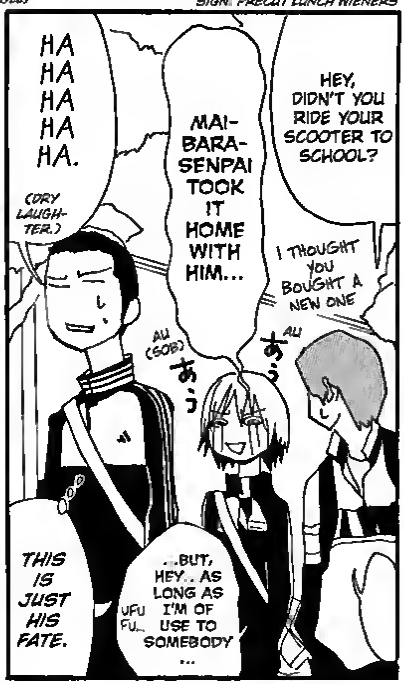




SFX: GACHARI (CLUNK) BACHICHA (KCHUNK) KOROKOROKORO (ROLL)

SIGN: PRECUT LUNCH WIENERS



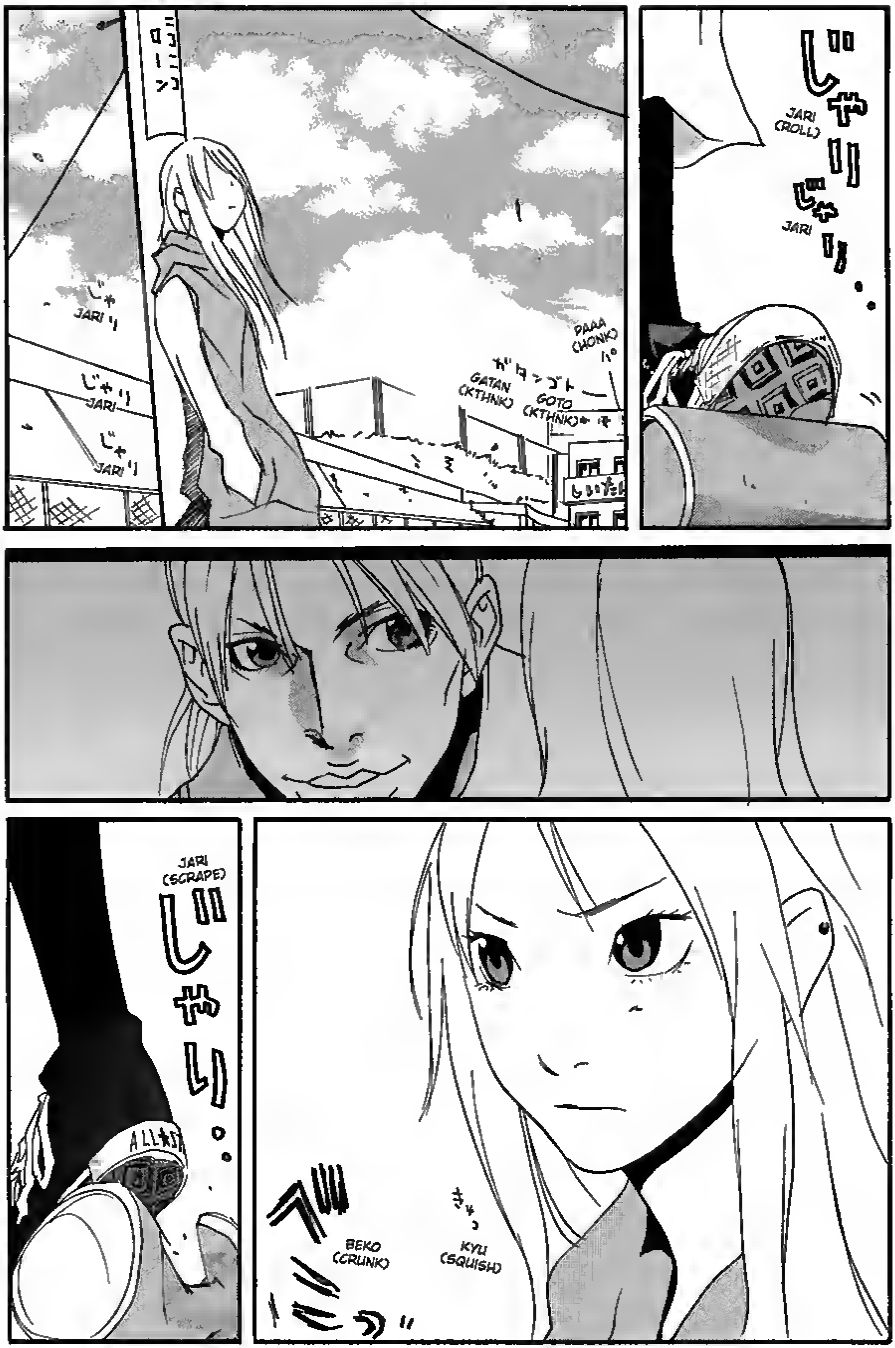

HA HA HA HA HA.
(DRY LAUGHTER.)
MAI-BARA-SENPAI TOOK IT HOME WITH HIM...
HEY, DIDN'T YOU RIDE YOUR SCOOTER TO SCHOOL?
I THOUGHT YOU BOUGHT A NEW ONE
AU (SOB)
AU
THIS IS JUST HIS FATE.
...BUT, HEY.. AS LONG AS I'M OF USE TO SOMEBODY ...
UFU FU...

SIGN: SCARECROWS OF JAPAN FESTIVAL

I'M UNLUCKY?
NAAH! NAAH!
TON! (STMP)
YES. I THINK YOU'RE UNLUCKY.
YOU'VE NEVER BEEN GIFTED WITH A REAL LEADER.
YOU HAVEN'T HAD ME!
BISHI (JAB)
.....
HEH
IT JUST KILLS ME TO WATCH TALENT LIKE YOURS BEING WASTED BY AN INCOMPE-TENT BOSS.

IS HE ACTUALLY... A NICE GUY AFTER ALL?
IT DIDN'T TAKE MUCH FOR RAKUICHI TO BE DRAWN TO HIS COACH!!
ZUGGIIN (TWINGE)
PIIIVOROOO (PWEEEEEE)
SIGN: EISLER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
阿記念病院
KIKII (SCREECH)
BATAN (SLAM)
HURRY, SENSEI!
I SURE HOPE SENPAI'S ALL RIGHT.
HARA (HUFF)
HARA
TA (TAP)
TA
TA
WAIT A SECOND, INAE-CHAN!
HMM? WHAT'S THAT...?
ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA
AH!
SFX: BATAN (SLAM)

AHH...
JURURI (DROOL)
KINDA HOT. KINDA SHADY.
THAT'S THE FOUR-EYED DRIVER FOR AZUCHI-SENPAI'S FAMILY... I THINK.
YOU KNOW HIM?
I'M FINE.
GAYA (YAMMER)
GAYA
UGH...
YOU THERE!
THAT MAN!
AH WAH WAH!
YOU! WHAT'S UP!?
HEY!
HARA (HUFF)
HARA
I HOPE NOTHING BAD HAS HAPPENED...
SFX: GASHI (GRAB)
HA (GASP)
MAIKO!?
SENPAI!?
I-I DON'T KNOW! IT WAS SOME BLONDE WOMAN...SHE SPRUNG ON US LIKE A BAT OUT OF HELL!!
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
GAKU (TREMBLE)
GAKU
GAKU
EEEK...!!
SFX: BURU (SHIVER) BURU


JARI (ROLL)
JARI
JARI
JARI
JARI
PAAA (HONK)
GATAN (KTHNK)
GOTO (KTHNK)
JARI (SCRAPE)
BEKO (CRUNK)
KYU (SQUISH)

AW, DARN! HAND-BALL!
SO...
YAH!
PON (BOOT)
PASH! (PWAP)
ZA (ZSHH)
SHIRT KITA ELEMENTARY
...AM I WATCHING THESE LITTLE KIDS PLAY?
WHY EXACTLY ...
HA HA HA.
AH, WHAT A HEART-WARMING SIGHT
WHAT WAS THAT?
I CAN'T HEEEAR YOU!
G-GO AWAY!
UH ...
DOBAAAN (KABOOM)
SHIRT KITA MIDDLE SCHOOL
WITNESS!
RAH!
BIKU (FLINCH)
ZUBARI (JAB)
WHO?
HUH?
FOR THE SAKE OF STUM-BLING ACROSS A SCENE LIKE THAT ONE!!

HYA HA HA...
HMP!!
MU FU FU
SHUT THE HELL UP! WE'RE BUSY PREPARIN' FOR THE PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT!
YOU KIDS SHOULD RUN ON HOME, CRAP YOUR PANTS, AND HIDE UNDER THE BED!
TRUTH IS, WE'RE THE THIRD-STRINGERS, AND WE DON'T EVEN GET TO PLAY ON THE SCHOOL FIELD.
YEAH, EXACTLY!!
LEAVE US ALONE! WE'RE PRACTICING!
TODAY'S SUPPOSED TO BE OUR PRACTICE DAY! GO AND PLAY SOMEWHERE ELSE!!
DAIGO SAKAE (LIE)
YOU GUYS SUCK!
DANGIT! THESE STINKY POO-HEADS ALWAYS SHOW UP WHENEVER COACH ISN'T AROUND! BURN IN HELL!!
YES, YOU ARE RIGHT ON THE MONEY!
GUSUKU
MOVE IT!
DON (SHOVE)
EGI
RAKUGI
AHA! THE CLASSIC JOCKEYING FOR POSITION! COULD THIS BE LEADING TO WHAT I THINK IT IS!?
HEY, BOYS! EYES UP HERE!!
KIRAAN (SPARKLE)
C'MON, COMPADRES!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING
I LIKE THAT YOU'VE GOT A GOOD HEAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS. ★
BA (WHOOSH)

...PLAYING FREE AGENT FOR A TEAM OF SNOT-NOSED KIDS FIGHTING FOR A PRACTICE SPACE.
LET'S WIN THIS GAME, MISTER!
GAAN (SHOCK)
WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING TO ME?
ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE!
HERE I AM ...
BLUE SKIES
WHITE CLOUDS
SFX: NYURI (BOING)
IT'S OUR DAY TO PRACTICE. WHY SHOULD WE PLAY A GAME TO SETTLE IT? IT'S NOT FAIR! IS THIS HOW THE WORLD WORKS?
LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!!
ALL RIGHT!
BATTLE FOR THE FIELD: ELEMENTARY VS. MIDDLE SCHOOLERS!
...AND THEN YOU DIE.
LIFE IS PAIN.
BACKUP.
GOOD LUCK, GUYS!
I'M SO FREAKIN' PUMPED UP RIGHT NOW!!
GU (CLENCH)
...WHAT'D YOU SAY, BITCH!?
THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THEM...
HUH? YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL!?
HEY! NO FIGHTING!
HEH HEH HEH
← 5'5"
5'10" →

HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS GUY?
PI (FLICK)
HEY, WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT POSITIONS?
K-KEEP IT TOGETHER, MISTER!
WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO, ANYWAY!?
がっし
GASSHI (GRAB)
ムキー
MUKII (PISSED)
EVERYTHING HAPPENING TODAY IS DESIGNED TO PISS ME OFF!
I'M ALWAYS RIGHT WINGER OR RIGHT FORWARD!
JUST LEAVE THE GOAL-SCORING TO ME!
IN THIS GAME...
KUWA (RAWR)
ｸﾜｯ!
NOT SO FAST!!
BAN (BOOM)
...YOU'RE PLAYING ON THE LEFT!!
HUUUH?

WAAAH!
GO, GO!
PI (FLIK)
ZA (ZSHH)
I'VE NEVER PLAYED LEFT IN MY LIFE!
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT FOUR-EYES'S PLAN, ANYWAY?
I'M IN!
WHOA, REALLY!?
YOU COULD SHOW UP THOSE DOUBTING TEAMMATES AND WIN OVER THAT CUTE LITTLE MANAGER!
BOGO (MUTTER)
DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO BE SO GULLIBLE...
DON'T THINK TOO HARD ABOUT IT. JUST GO OUT THERE AND PLAY.
GO OUT AND PLAY, HE SAYS.

GA (SNAK)
THIS GUY AGAIN!
MOVE IT!
DO (CHARGE)
DO
DO
DO
DON (SHOVE)
TA (THP)
BA (ZIP)
WOW, HE SUCKS ...
HWAH!

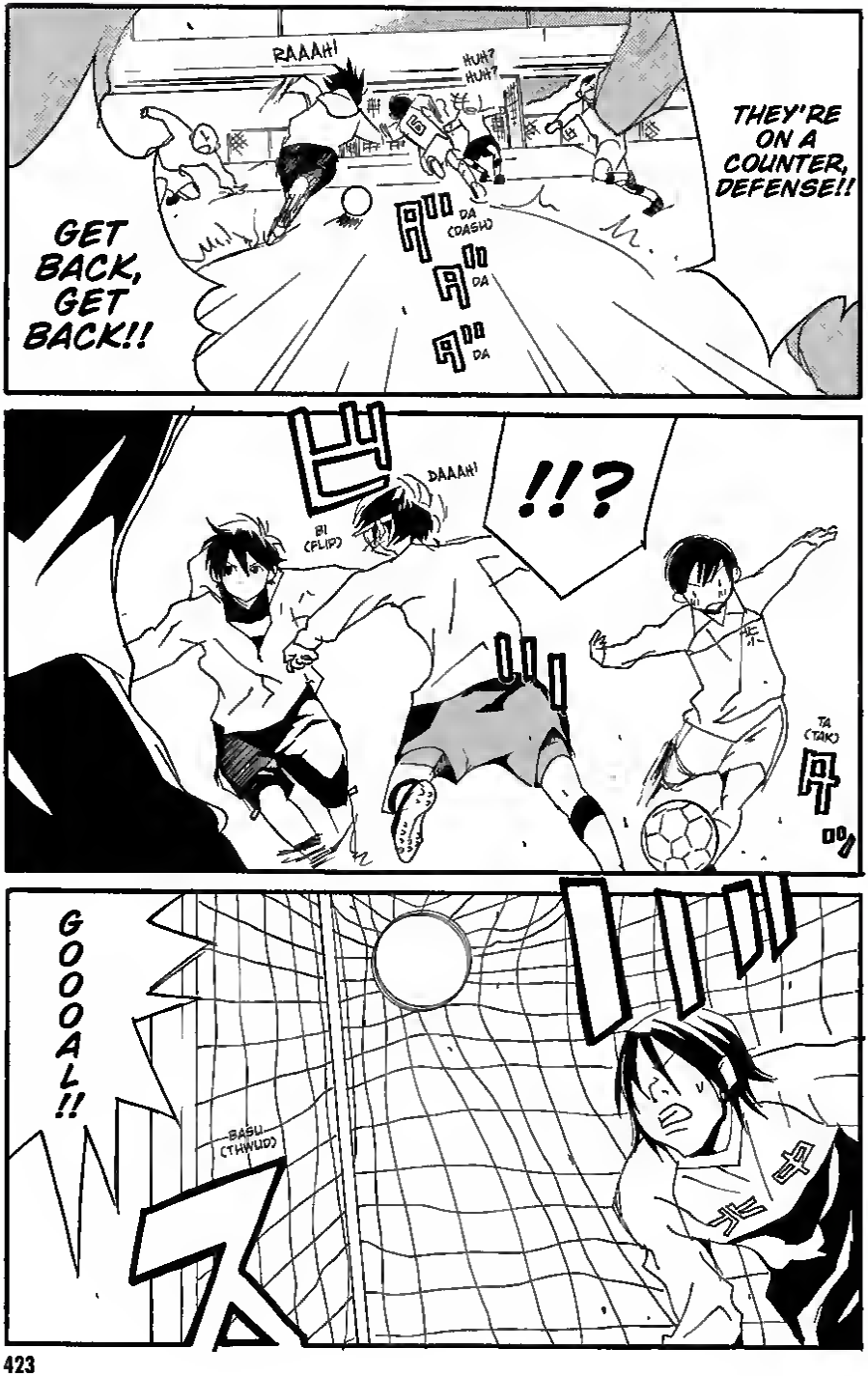
!
ZUBA (SWISH)
WHOA, HE'S FAST!
SUCKER!
DO (COMMO)
!!?

LOOK OUT, HE'S GOOD! SURROUND HIM!!
DA (DASH)
AND HE'S FAST!
ニヤリ
NIYARI (SMIRK)
THAT SMUG SMIRK. I BET THIS GROWN-UP IS THINKING OF SOME AWFUL, UNJUST THING.
ドキ
DOKI (BADUMP)
WHY DOES IT FEEL LIKE I HAVE SUCH A WIDE FIELD OF VISION?
ビ
BI (ZWIP)
YEOW!

NICE PASS!
!!!
WHAA!?
DA (DSH)
BOIN (BWONG)
BASH! (BWAP)
AAAAH!!
SORRY, MISTER! IT WAS SUCH A GOOD PASS TOO!
SUTATATATA (DAAAASH)
.....
DANG! SO CLOSE!
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE

LOOKS LIKE HE'S DISCOVERED MY INTENTIONS.
SU (SSK)
WHICH ARE?
JUST STAY AGGRESSIVE AT THE TOP!
I'M GONNA MAKE SURE YOU SCORE A GOAL IN THIS GAME.
OKAY!
PON (PAT)
DON'T SWEAT IT, KID!
TAG BACKUP
NOW I CAN SEE SO MUCH BETTER!
WHEN THE RIGHT-HANDER GOES OVER
TO THE LEFT...
BLIND SPOT
[THE NEW RAKUICHI.]
[THE OLD RAKUICHI.]
BUT BY PUTTING HIM ON THE LEFT SIDE, I'VE SUCCESSFULLY GIVEN HIM A FAR GREATER FIELD OF VISION THAN HE ENJOYED PREVIOUSLY.
NOW HE CAN OVERSEE THE ACTION AND EVEN CREATE EFFECTIVE PASSES—A TECHNIQUE HE HAS NEVER USED PROPERLY BEFORE!
HIS CONSTANT PRESENCE ON THE RIGHT SIDE MEANT HIS VISION WAS AS NARROW AS A RACEHORSE'S.
FU FU FU!
IT WOULD SURELY BE NO OVERSTATEMENT TO CLAIM THAT HE IS NOW A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PLAYER THAN HE WAS JUST HOURS AGO!!
AND ALL THANKS TO ME!!!
.....
THAT'S SO SIMPLISTIC...
BUT IT'S TRUE! HE CAN SEE A LOT BETTER!! RIGHT!?
BUT IF HE'S A RIGHTY, WON'T THAT MAKE IT HARDER FOR HIM TO LIFT A CROSS FROM THE LEFT?
TAGS BACKUP

NOT TO WORRY! IF THAT HAPPENS, HE CAN SIMPLY CUT BACK OVER THE MIDDLE AND DRIBBLE THE BALL UNTIL HE TAKES HIS SHOT!!
AND THAT SUITS HIS PERSONALITY TOO! IT'S THE PERFECT MATCH!!
WHAT ABOUT TEAM-WORK ...?
PAA (GLINT)
...YET HE'S QUITE FULL OF HIMSELF. IT'S THE PERFECT SPOT FOR HIM.
NOT SO FAST!
ZA (ZGHK)
WHOAAA! LOOK AT HIM JUMP!
PYON (BOING)
ZUZAAA (SLIDE)
HE'S NOT REALLY VERY GOOD ...
AWW, GEEZ!
ZUBA (ZWOOM)
HE'S TOO FAST!!


RAAAH!
HUH? HUH?
THEY'RE ON A COUNTER, DEFENSE!!
GET BACK, GET BACK!!
DA (DASH)
DA
DA
DAAAH!
!!?
BI (FLIP)
TA (TAK)
GOOOAL!!
BASU (THWUD)

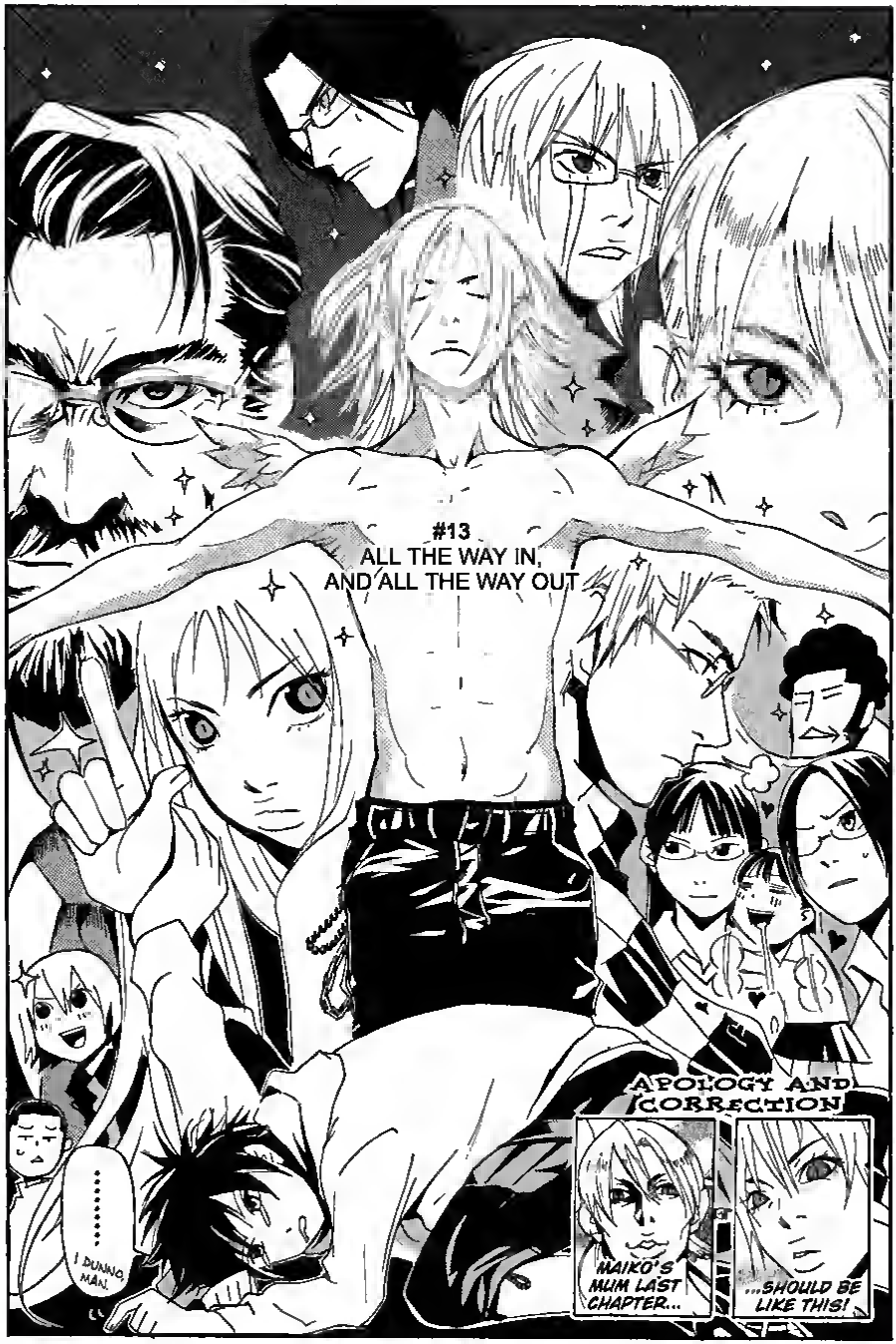
...THE FACE OF GOD!
GOD (?)
HEH HEH
MASTER!!
GU (CLENCH)
THAT'S A JOKE, RIGHT?
DA COASH
NOW IS...
AND ON THAT DAY ...
DOKUN (BADMAN)
DOKUN
...I SAW ...
NICE PASS!
DOKUN

...MY TIME!
BA (ZOOM)
SOMETIMES, FORTUNE DESCENDS...
GUN (ZIP)
GOAL!
NHOO! GO TEAM!
"NON"!?
NON? ★
FU FU FU
...RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE.
HEH! NOW, IF YOU DWEEBS WRACK YOUR NONEXISTENT BRAINS TO FIGURE OUT TODAY'S LESSON, IT'S THAT YOU SHOULD FOLLOW COMMON SENSE AND GOOD MANNERS FROM NOW ON!
UGH.
ZUBISHI (JAB)
KXH!
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEAM WINS, 5-0!!
PII (FWEE)
GRR!
WHO IS THAT HIGH SCHOOLER?
DAMN!

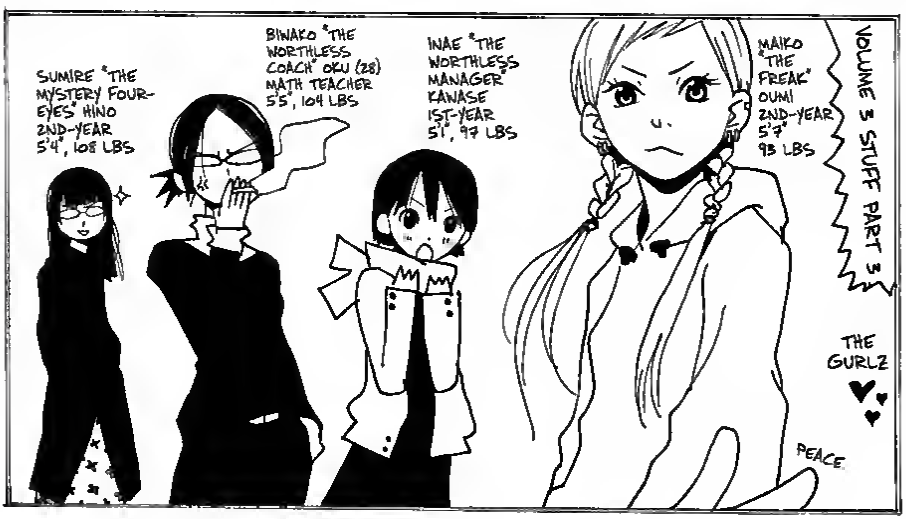
SFX: DOKIN (BADUMP)
A BEAUTIFUL SCENE
OH! WHAT A SWEET KID!
SUCKERS
...THAT I WAS OPENLY MOVED.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY WITH US!?
PAA (REGAIN)
WE COULD LEARN A LOT BY PLAYING WITH OLDER PEOPLE!
I FOUND ...
UM, HEY!
OUR BAD.
S-SORRY ABOUT THIS...
MAYBE THEY'RE NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL.
THIS LEADS TO MISTAKES LIKE TODAY.
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT SIMPLY MEANS THAT WE HAVEN'T PROGRESSED AS A SOCIETY TO THE LEVEL WHERE ANYONE CAN PLAY SPORTS FREELY.
COLD HARD TIMES AHEAD
RIGHT?
HA!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO LEARN FROM A BUNCH OF IDIOTIC MIDDLE SCHOOLERS LIKE THEM?
*RAKUICHI HAS A BAD HABIT OF IGNORING HIS OWN FAULTS.
BEING MOVED BY THE JOY OF LEARNING TO DO SOMETHING NEW...
PLAYING ON THE LEFT, HUH?
SAKU (WHOOSH)
SAKU
SAKU
...A FEELING THAT I HADN'T EXPERIENCED IN AGES...
WHEW ...
I'M JUST A POWERLESS CHILD.
KASHAN (CLANK)
LET US RUN OFF INTO THE SUNSET!!
ALL I HAVE TO MY NAME IS POTENTIAL.
SFX: BUTSU (MUTTER) BUTSU

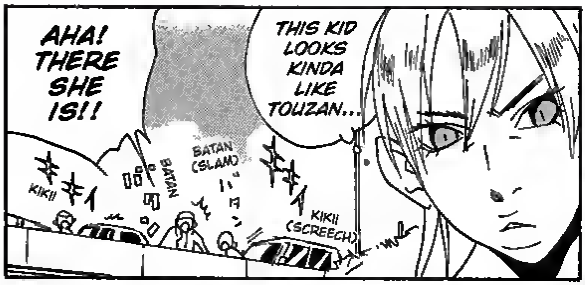
HUUUH!!?
BASHA (SPLASH)
!!?
WHUT?
BIKU (TWITCH)
...I FORGOT...
ZUMO (PLOP)
BUT ...
PICHON (SPLISH)
!
A FISH?
GISHI (CREAK)
BIKU (FLINCH)
...ABOUT ONE THING!
PIGH! (LEAP)
DOBA (SWOOSH)
HOW FISHY!
WHAT'S WITH THE FISH?
ZUGYUUUN (WHOOP)
OR MAYBE FROG-WOMAN!?
NO, IT MIGHT BE THE FROGMAN!*
IS THAT...A KAPPA!?
*A CRYPTID SPOTTED BY POLICE IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 1972. SOME SAY IT IS THE KAPPA OF AMERICA.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER ANYTHING GOOD HAPPENS...
JA (SCRAPE)
GATSUN (THWACK)
THAT LOOKED PAINFUL
OUCH!
!!?
HUH. GOT SNAGGED ON SOMETHING
...SOMETHING JUST AS BAD HAPPENS.
SHE'S EATING A FISH FROM THE RIVER RAW
DON (BOOOM)
WHAT?
JIIIN (CTHROB)
USHH...
M...MA'AM?
AH!
KUCHA
KUCHA (MUNCH)
SFX: KURA (SWOON) KURA
IT NEVER FAILS...
A BLONDE...
...AND MUSCLEY...
...TO GO THIS WAY!
...WOMAN?
THAT'S MY LIFE!
THAT HURT...

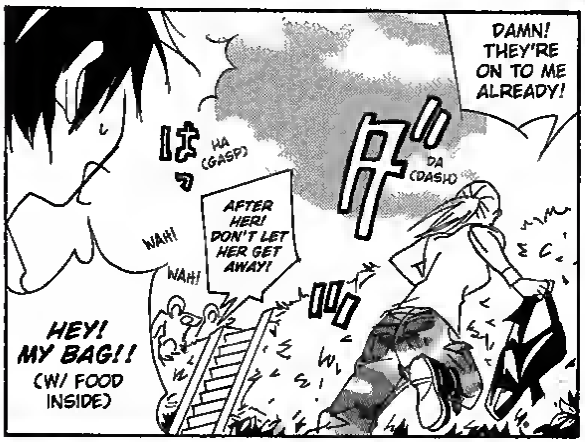

#13
ALL THE WAY IN,
AND ALL THE WAY OUT
APOLOGY AND CORRECTION
MAIKO'S MUM LAST CHAPTER...
...SHOULD BE LIKE THIS!
I DUNNO MAN.

SFX. PIBOBA (BEEPBOOP)


VOLUME 3 STUFF PART 3
SUMIRE "THE MYSTERY FOUR-EYES" HINO 2ND-YEAR 5'4", 108 LBS
BINAKO "THE WORTHLESS COACH" OKU (28) MATH TEACHER 5'5", 104 LBS
INAE "THE WORTHLESS MANAGER" KANASE 1ST-YEAR 5'1", 97 LBS
MAIKO "THE FREAK" OUMI 2ND-YEAR 5'7" 93 LBS
THE GURLZ
PEACE


AHA! THERE SHE IS!!
THIS KID LOOKS KINDA LIKE TOUZAN...
KIKI!
BATAN (SLAM)
BATAN
KIKI! (SCREECH)

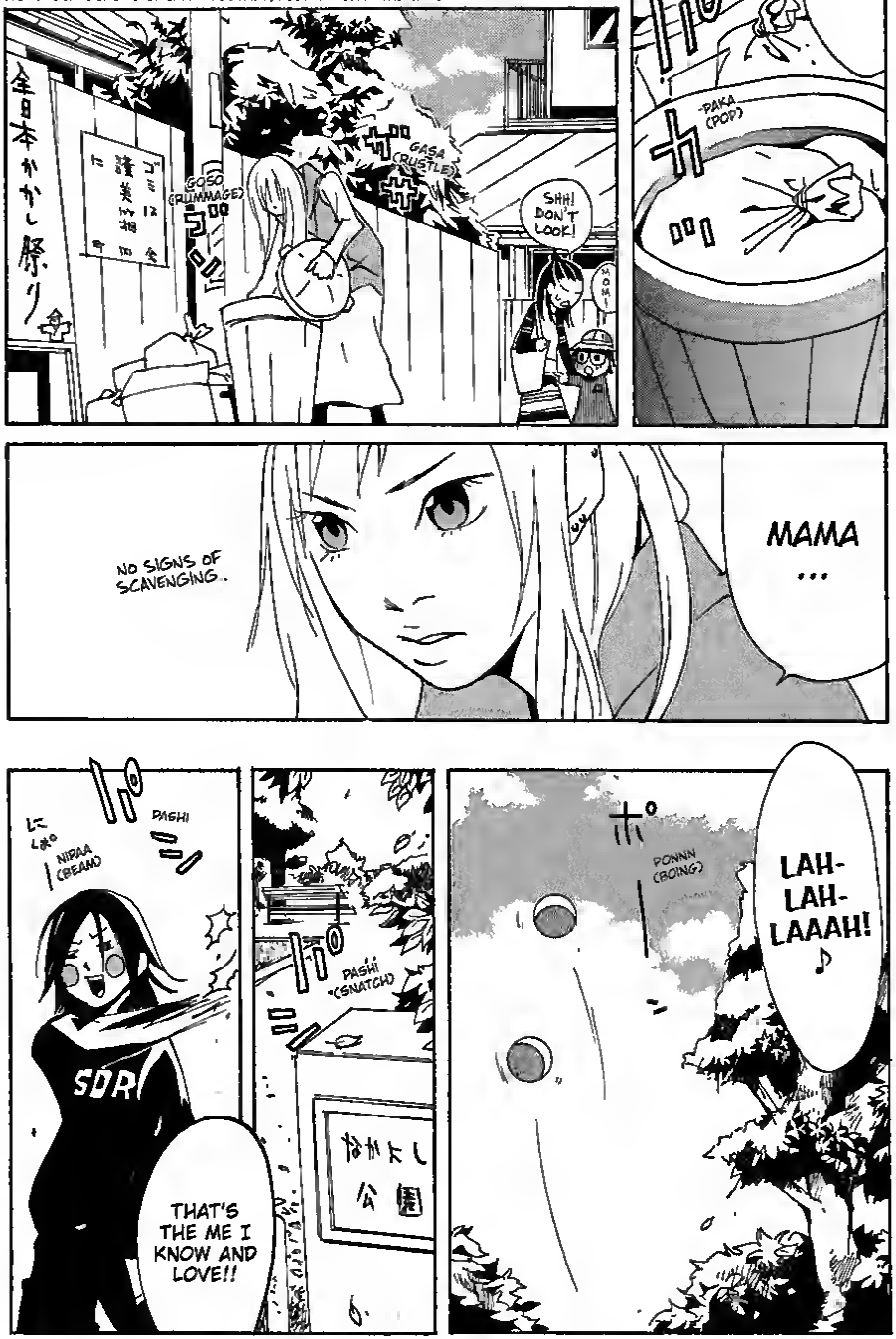
PLUS, WHY DOES SHE SEEM SO... FAMILIAR?


DAMN! THEY'RE ON TO ME ALREADY!
HA (GASP)
DA (DASH)
AFTER HER! DON'T LET HER GET AWAY!
WAH!
WAH!
HEY! MY BAG!! (W/ FOOD INSIDE)

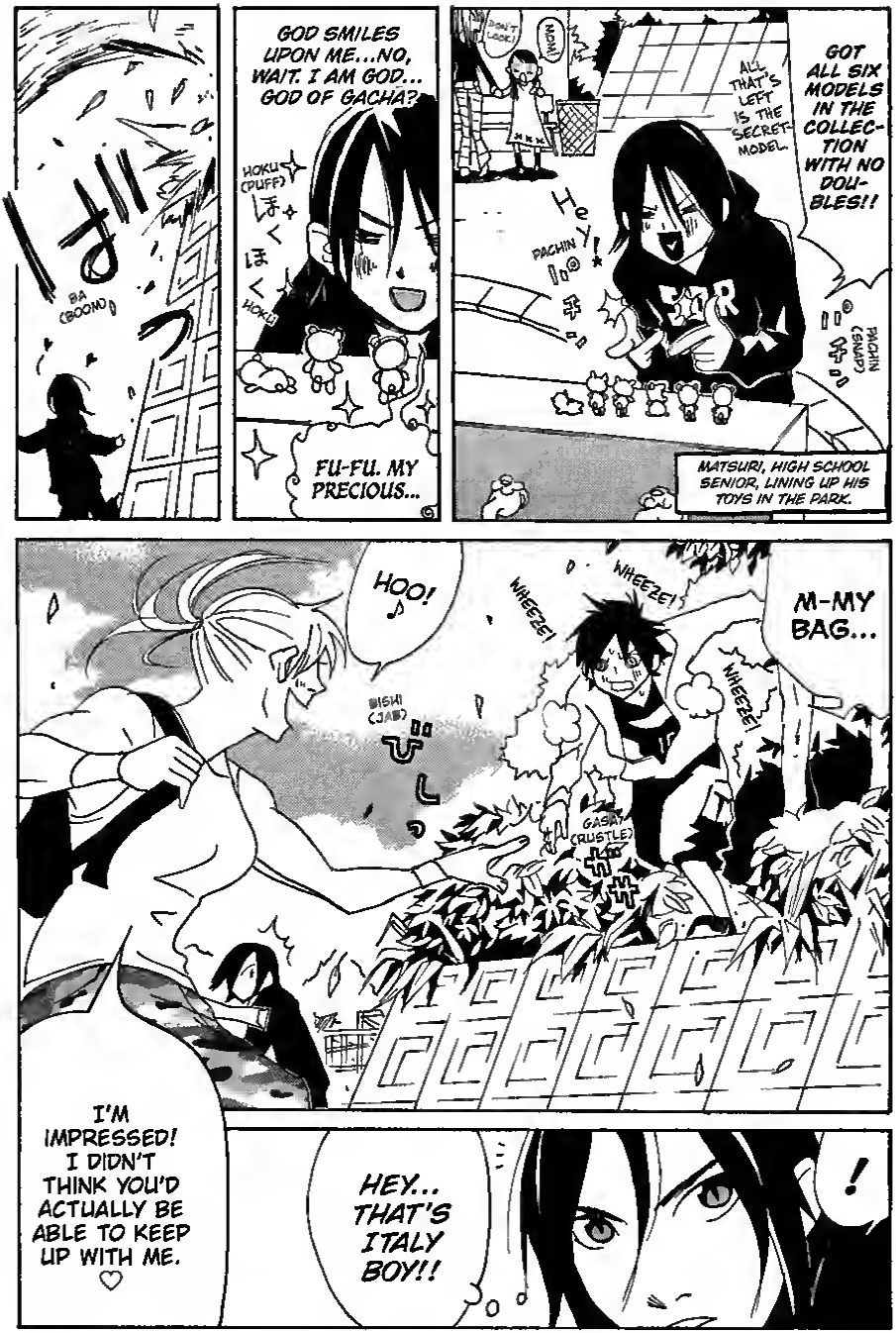
NOTHING GOOD...
...WILL COME FROM MESSING WITH HER...
WAAAH!
EEEK!

HANG ON A SEC!
DON'T, NAGAHAMA-KUN! STAY AWAY!
DA (DASH)
DA (LEAP)

SIGNS: SCARECROWS OF JAPAN FESTIVAL, KEEP TRASH IN THE CANS



SIGN: NAKAYOSHI PARK


BA (BOOM)
GOD SMILES UPON ME...NO, WAIT. I AM GOD... GOD OF GACHA?
HOKU (PUFF)
HOKU
FU-FU. MY PRECIOUS...
DON'T LOOK!
MOM!
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE SECRET MODEL.
GOT ALL SIX MODELS IN THE COLLECTION WITH NO DOUBLES!!
PACHIN
PACHIN (SNAP)
MATSURI, HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR, LINING UP HIS TOYS IN THE PARK.
HOO!
WHEEZE!
WHEEZE!
WHEEZE!
M-MY BAG...
BISHI (JAB)
GASA? (RUSTLE?)
I'M IMPRESSED! I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH ME.
HEY... THAT'S ITALY BOY!!
!

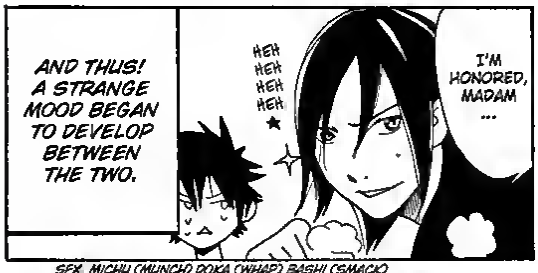
DID SHE THROW HIM USING THE FORCE!?
NOT REALLY
I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT!
WHO IS THIS LADY!?
EEEK!
POI (TOSS)
BUT YOU'RE NOT THAT GOOD YET!
HYAAA!
WH-WHAT WAS THAT!?
!?
SDR
!!!!
DONGARA (CLUNK!?)
どんがら
GASSHAA (CRASH)
...WAIT...
DOGUSHAAA (KATHWAMM)
ドゴ
BEKI (SNAP)
MEKI (CRACK) x4
BAKI (POP)
BOCHI (CRICK)

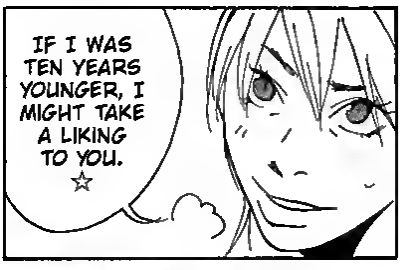
SO IT WAS YOUUU!?
YIPE!
BAGHI (BOINK)
BYU (ZIP)
HMPH!
BUKU (BLUB)
BUKU
N-NO...! WAS... HER...
PURUM (SHIVER)
TCH! IT'S ALL JUST CANDY.
PURU
RAKUCHI'S KNAPSACK
YOU LITTLE CAD! IS THIS YOUR REVENGE FOR BEING TAKEN OUT OF THE GAME!?
I'M GOING TO SEND YOU TO HELL!!!
YOU'LL DIE 100 TIMES!
IS HE ...?
HOW DARE YOU!?
HOW DARE YOU!?
BA (LEAP)
SDR
ZA (ZSHH)
BA (WHOOSH)
SDR
HOW DARE YOUUU!?
!!?

HE'S FAST!
AS THE CAPTAIN OF THE BUDDHIST ENLIGHTMENT CLUB OF CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL, I, MATSURI HIKIYAMA, DO SENTENCE THEE TO HELL!!
EVEN A WOMAN WILL NOT RECEIVE THE LEAST SPECK OF MERCY FROM ME!!
FORAAA (DOOM)
HOW DARE YOU DESECRATE THESE BEAUTEOUS CREATURES, MOST BELOVED TO ME OF ALL THINGS IN THE WORLD!!!!
DOGOOOO (HOLY RAGE)
OHH? ★
FU-FU-FU! I'M OVER HERE, SONNY!
BYU (ZIP)
!?
I CAN'T HIT HER! WHO IS SHE, JACK DEMPSEY?
TAKE THIS ...!!
UHNN ...
UFU FU
BYU
SDR
FU FU FU
FU
HYU (WHISH)
MERA
MERA (BURN)
BAOOON (BAWOOO)
THIS SIN CARRIES THE PRICE OF A MILLION LIFETIMES OF TORMENT!!!

BA (ZWIP)
BA
GURU (SPIN)
GURU
GURU
YAH!
YAH!
YAHH!
...UHH... WHO ARE YOU?
HAVE AT THEE!
BA (CHOP)
HMM.
BOTH OF YOU..
HIS REACTION TIME IS INCREDIBLE, THOUGH!
I WONDER WHO HE IS...
FU-FU! HAVEN'T HAD THIS MUCH FUN SINCE GULF WAR I!
DOSHU (DSHH)
WHOA!

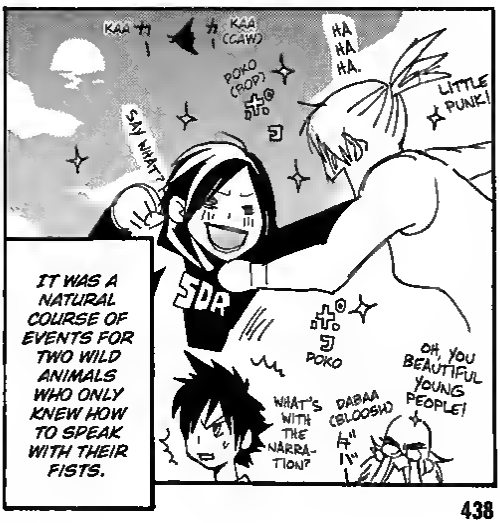
COME ON, LOVER BOY! HOW LONG ARE WE GOING TO ENJOY THIS DANCE?
BA
BA
BA
BA
BA
HO HO HO!
-BA (ZIP)
TCH!
DO (WHAM)
SDR
DON'T MESS WITH ME!
.....!!
IS THAT THE SHADOW-LESS LEG!!?
I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT SINCE THE LEGENDARY WONG FEI-HUNG!
NYU (BOING)
AND WHO ARE YOU!?
MYSTERY MAN: JUUBEI YAGYUU





SFX: MICHU (MUNCH) DOKA (WHAP) BASHI (SMACK)

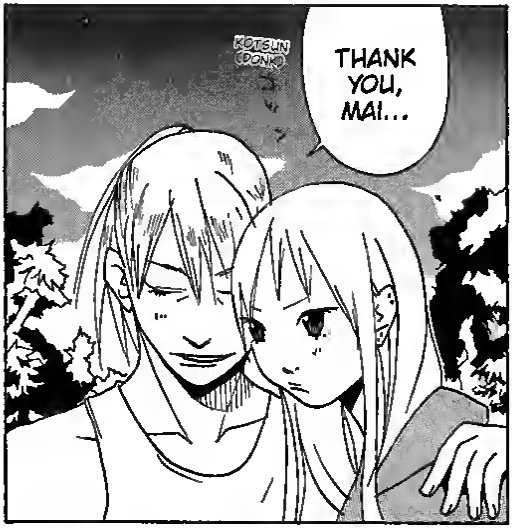
SFX: TOKO (THMP) TOKO

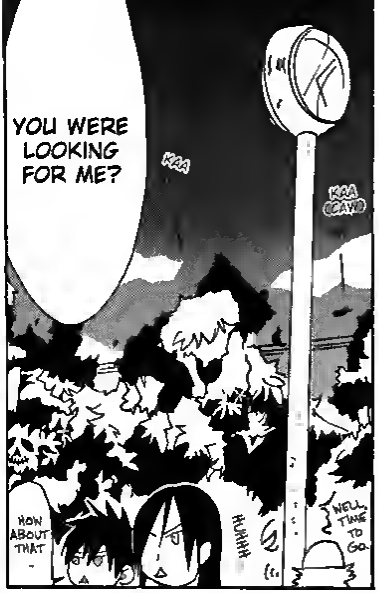

KAA
KAA (CAW)
HA HA HA.
POKO (BOP)
LITTLE PUNK!
SAY WHAT?
IT WAS A NATURAL COURSE OF EVENTS FOR TWO WILD ANIMALS WHO ONLY KNEW HOW TO SPEAK WITH THEIR FISTS.
POKO
OH, YOU BEAUTIFUL YOUNG PEOPLE!
WHAT'S WITH THE NARRATION?
DABAA (BLOOSH)

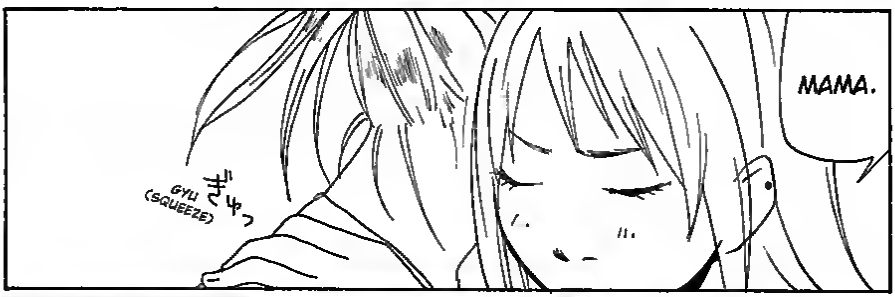
SFX: KYUPIIN (GLINT)

MAMA?
SHE STILL CALLS HER "MAMA"!?
CHIKA (LURCH)
AHA, THAT MAKES SENSE! SO THEY'RE RELATED.
OH, SHUT UP! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TO MY MAMA!?
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? YOU COULD HAVE HURT SOMEONE...
YOU BIG JERK-ASS!
WHICH WAY IS HEAVEN?
TO SEE SO MANY WARRIORS AT ONCE!
OHH, WHAT A DAY.
YOSH-AY-HEE-HOO
キュウ

SFX: KYUU (PWOO)

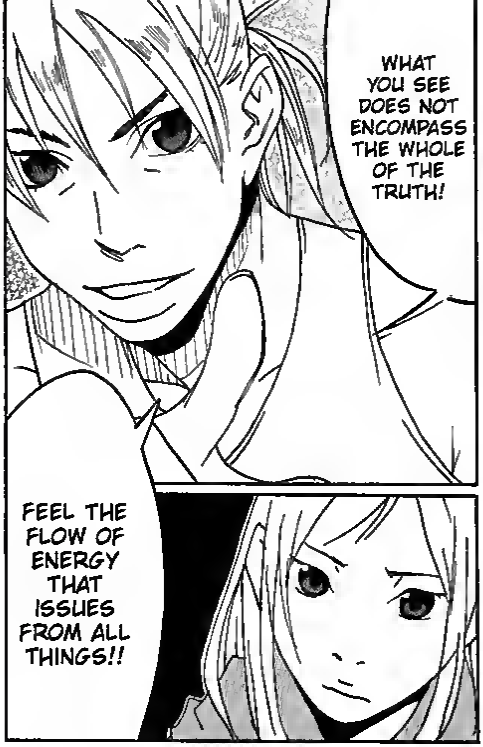

KOTSUN (DONK)
THANK YOU, MAI...


YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME?
KAA
KAA (CAW)
HOW ABOUT THAT
HUHHH
WELL, TIME TO GO.


MAMA.
GYU (SQUEEZE)

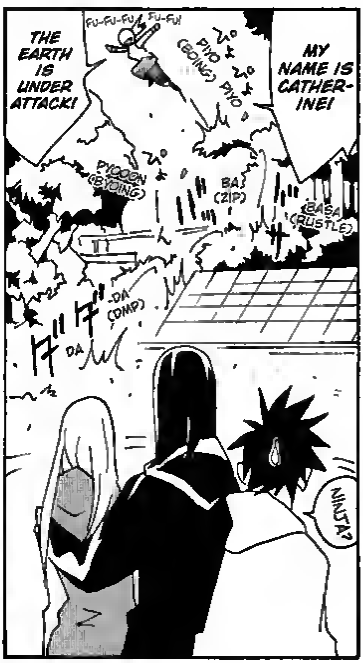
AN UNEXPECTED SIDE TO HER!
IT'S LIKE SHE'S ALMOST HUMAN...
AHA! THERE SHE IS!!
SURROUND HER!!
KIKI (SCREECH)
GUWON (CLOAD)
DOGA THWANG
DOF!

LIKE MOTHER LIKE DAUGHTER
.....

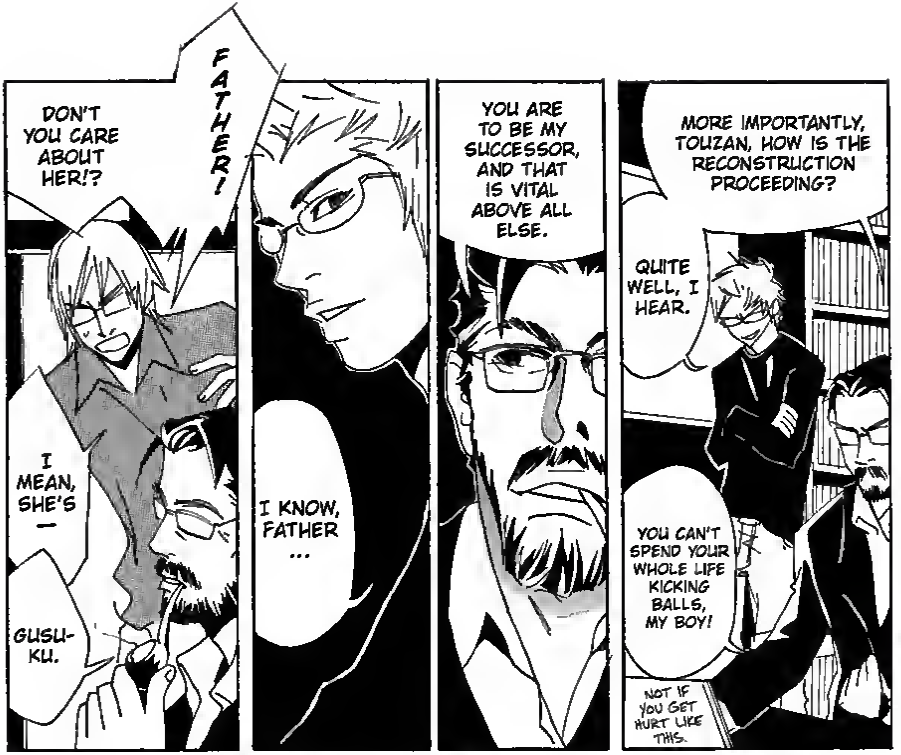

WHAT YOU SEE DOES NOT ENCOMPASS THE WHOLE OF THE TRUTH!
FEEL THE FLOW OF ENERGY THAT ISSUES FROM ALL THINGS!!

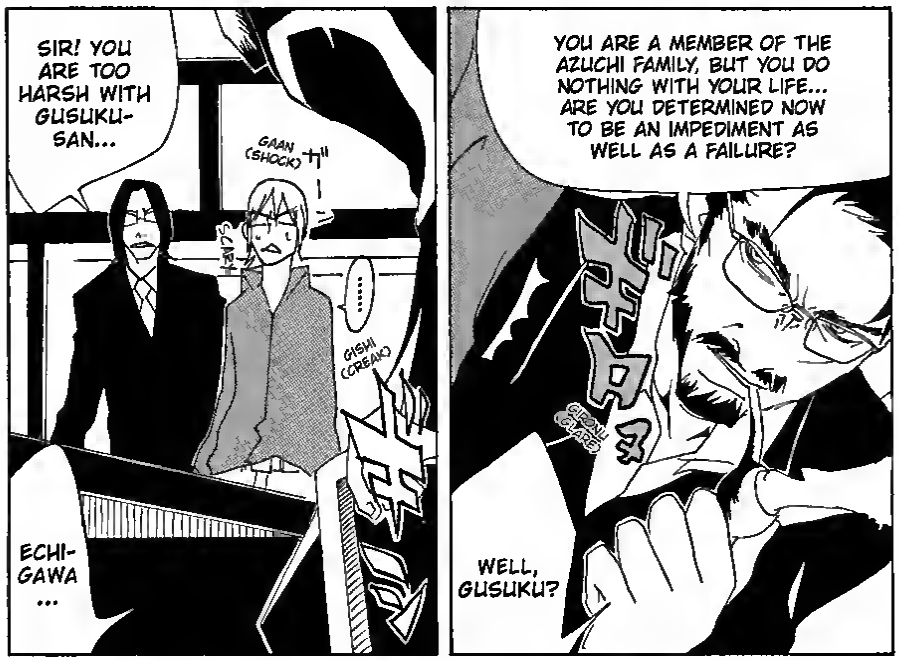
MAIKO.
SU (SSK)
TON (TMP)
WHAT THE ?
REMEMBER THIS.

THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, MAMAN!!
SO BEAUTIFUL
WAS SHE ACTUALLY... TOYING WITH THAT GIRL!?
DAMN YOU!
NOW THAT'S IMPRESSIVE
WAAIT!
WAIT!

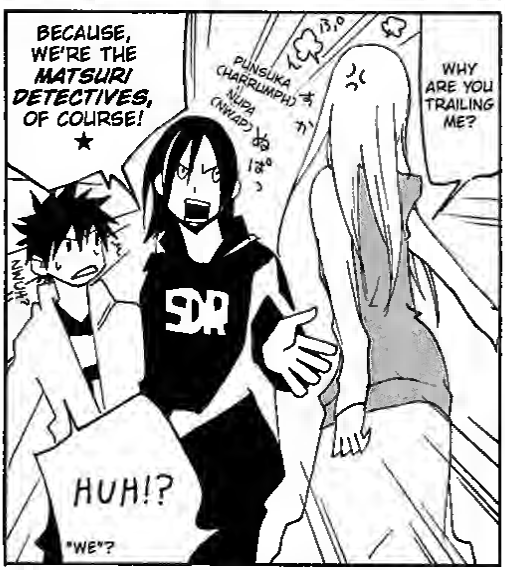

FU-FU-FU
FU-FU!
THE EARTH IS UNDER ATTACK!
MY NAME IS CATHERINE!
PYO (BOING)
PYOOON (BOUING)
BA (ZIP)
SASA (RUSTLE)
DA
DA (COMP)
NINJA?

IS FATHER HERE!? WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
GATAN (SLAM)
DA
DA
SFX. BAN (SLAM) GASHAN (CRASH) PARIN (CLINK)
OH CRAP!
AZUCHI HOME
OH CRAP!
DA (STOMP)
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
DA
SFX. KYU (SQUEAK)
IT'S MISS CATHER -INE!!
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
BUT, FATHER!
FUU (SIGH)
GOFAA (CHUFF)
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE NOISE? NOT YOU TOO, GUSUKU.
KACHI (CLICK)
T-TOUZAN...
YOU'RE BACK!
HA (GASP)
BIKU (TWITCH)
WE KNOW ALREADY.
SETTLE DOWN.


FATHER!
DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT HER!?
I MEAN, SHE'S —
GUSU-KU.
I KNOW, FATHER ...
YOU ARE TO BE MY SUCCESSOR, AND THAT IS VITAL ABOVE ALL ELSE.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, TOUZAN, HOW IS THE RECONSTRUCTION PROCEEDING?
QUITE WELL, I HEAR.
YOU CAN'T SPEND YOUR WHOLE LIFE KICKING BALLS, MY BOY!
NOT IF YOU GET HURT LIKE THIS.


SIR! YOU ARE TOO HARSH WITH GUSUKU-SAN...
GAAN (SHOCK)
ECHI-GAWA ...
GISHI (CREAK)
YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE AZUCHI FAMILY, BUT YOU DO NOTHING WITH YOUR LIFE... ARE YOU DETERMINED NOW TO BE AN IMPEDIMENT AS WELL AS A FAILURE?
GROAN (CRAB)
WELL, GUSUKU?

GRR.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT MAKES YOU BELIEVE THAT YOUR EXALTED MUM WAS ON HER WAY TO THE AZUCHI MANSION?
WISH I HADN'T SAID IT.
ISN'T THAT CURIOUS?

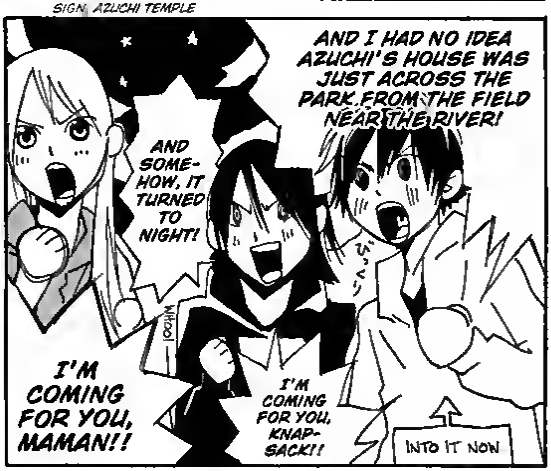


*THE MATSURI DETECTIVES ARE MATSURI'S OWN SELF-SELECTED DETECTIVE GANG! THEY WERE INTRODUCED BRIEFLY IN CHAPTER 5 AND HAVE SADLY BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME JUST FOR ANOTHER CHANCE TO APPEAR!!

...WHY'D YOU TELL US THAT INFO?
PLUS, IF YOU DON'T WANT US TO COME...
NNNH...
.....
IT'S BECAUSE YOU ACTUALLY DO WANT US THERE, DON'T YOU?
.....
FU FU FU!
YOU GOTTA BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF.
C'MON, KID.
HA-HA-HA-HA! ISN'T THAT CUTE! ☆
HEE-HEE!
DOFU (DWOMP)
DUMB-BUTT!
SHHH-SHUT UP!!
HIRARI (SWISH)
GRARRR!
↑ COLLATERAL DAMAGE
...SHE COULD BE SO CUTE (NORMAL) ...
ACTUALLY, IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN CALL ME "DAD." I HEARD YOU DON'T HAVE ONE
KIRIRI (GLARE)
HN?
MON CHAT?
JUST A WARM-UP FOR WHEN I MARRY YOUR MOM
NEVER MIND! GO TO HELL!
MATSURI!!!
I NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED ...
HRMMM...
THAT REALLY HURT.

HA HA
LISTEN TO ME!
HA
DR
ONWARD, TO AZUCHI MANSION!!
DR
GO HOME!
IS MATSURI MORE CONSIDERATE THAN I THOUGHT?
BY THE WAY, THE MOUNTAINS AND BUILDINGS IN THE BACKGROUND ALSO BELONG TO THE AZUCHIS! IT'S JUST SICKENING! (MAIKO)
TRUMP
IT'S HUGE!! (RAKUICHI)
DON! (BOOM)
AMAZ-ING! (RAKU-ICHI)
WOW! AND HERE WE ARE AT AZUCHI'S HOUSE!! (MATSURI)

SIGN: AZUCHI TEMPLE


AND I HAD NO IDEA AZUCHI'S HOUSE WAS JUST ACROSS THE PARK FROM THE FIELD NEAR THE RIVER!
AND SOME-HOW, IT TURNED TO NIGHT!
DOHN!
I'M COMING FOR YOU, MAMAN!!
I'M COMING FOR YOU, KNAP-SACK!!
INTO IT NOW

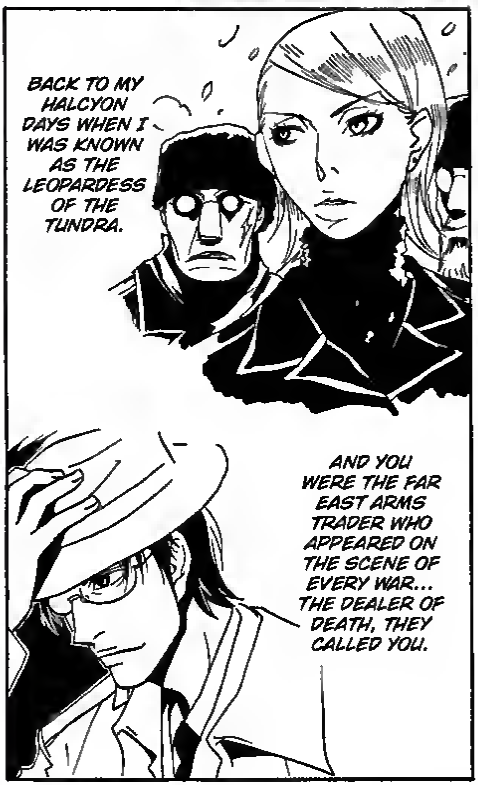
SFX: BIKKURI (SHOCK)

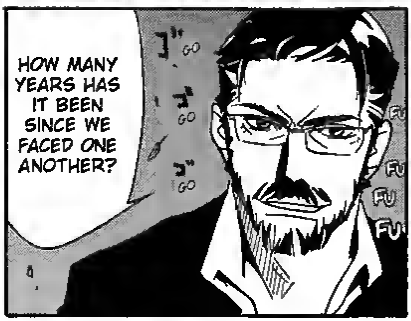
ROCK: NAMU AMIDA BUTSU SFX: GOKIN (CRAK)
PURUAN (TWANGLE)
WHA ...?
EEK!
SAMU
UGH
SAAAA (WHOOSH)
UHH...
UHHH...
AS I LOOKED UP...
...I SAW NOT A HUMAN...
DODON (BOOOM)
UWA (WHOOSH)

...AND THE OTHER MEN WITH TWENTY-DEGREE BLACK BELTS IN VARIOUS DISCIPLINES...
THERE'S VINCENT, THE GUY WHO MADE HIS NAME IN THE UNDERGROUND WRESTLING SCENE...
ALAS...
あう
AU
あう
AU (SOB)
THE TERROR
SHE'S ALREADY TAKEN DOWN TWENTY GOOD MEN.
I HAVE MERELY A FIVE-DEGREE BLACK BELT IN KARATE. I CANNOT POSSIBLY COMPETE...
A DEMON...
...BUT A BEAST!!!

SFX. BURU (SHIVER) BURU
.....
SCARY?
UUUH...
I'M SCARED MOMMY
PAKI (CLINK)
GOOD GRIEF.
ZARI (SCRAPE)
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED IN THE LEAST...
NO, SIR! YOU MUST STAY BACK! IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS!
ZA (GASP)
!!CATHERINE!
ZAZAAA (WHOOSH)
GIRO (GLARE)
I COULD SAY THE SAME TO YOU.
NII (LEER)
*THIS MANGA IS SASANEKE.

THE AURA THAT SHAKES THE EARTH...
THE PEBBLES ARE RATTLING UNDER-FOOT
THIS IS CRAZY!
GO
BYUOOOOO (WHOOOOSH)
ZA (ZSH)
GO (RUMBLE)
ZA
NO, SIR!


BACK TO MY HALCYON DAYS WHEN I WAS KNOWN AS THE LEOPARDESS OF THE TUNDRA.
AND YOU WERE THE FAR EAST ARMS TRADER WHO APPEARED ON THE SCENE OF EVERY WAR... THE DEALER OF DEATH, THEY CALLED YOU.


HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE FACED ONE ANOTHER?
FU
GO

IT CERTAINLY TAKES ME BACK...
GO

BUT I WAS NEVER MADE FOR LIVING A LIFE OF HIDING IN THE SHADOWS.
LET'S GO, MAI-CHAN.
SOME SPY...
NUM
EVEN THOUGH ...
...YOU HAD A WIFE AND FAMILY.
NOT TO MENTION THE DAYS WHEN WE WERE... LOVERS
FU FU FU.
WHEN I WAS IN THAT FOREIGN LEGION, THE WEAPONS YOU WERE SELLING TO THE ENEMY GAVE ME FITS... (OMISSION) ...AND THAT'S WHY I'LL NEVER FORGET THE BURNING SANDS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. WE MET MANY TIMES AFTER THAT, OF COURSE...
ZA (ZSH)
FU FU FU FU.
DAMMIT
HUFF, HUFF...
WIPED OUT...
YOU ALWAYS THINK YOU CAN HAVE EVERYTHING THE WAY YOU WANT IT! (WITH YOUR MONEY.)
BISHI! (JAB)
EVEN THE HEARTS OF OTHERS!!!
NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT TO LOOK IN MACHU PICCHU
AND HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU THINK I SPENT TRYING TO TRACK YOU DOWN?
GASARI (RUSTLE)
HMPH!
YOU ALWAYS ACT THIS WAY!
THEY'RE FROM ANOTHER WORLD.
SFX. DOKI (BADMP) DOKI

*THIS IS STILL SAISAMEKE.

SFX: WAKU (GIDDY) WAKU

BUT, KID...
...THIS IS THE KIND OF SECRET A PERSON TAKES TO THE GRAVE...
Y'KNOW?
GUSHI (SCRUNCH)
AGAIN?
BUT, I'M ASSUMING THAT GUY IS AZUCHI'S DAD? DOES THAT MEAN...?
PAPA!?
EHH!?
IT'S LIKE A SOAP OPERA.
SHE STILL CALLS HIM PAPA!?
WELL, I BET STUFF LIKE THIS IS COMMON. HE'S RICH, AFTER ALL. (STEREOTYPE)
I'VE READ FAIRY TALES MORE BELIEVABLE THAN THIS
"PAPA"!
WOW...
LOOK, I KNOW YOU TWO AREN'T EVER GONNA GET ALONG!
BUT I JUST CAN'T STAND THIS!
PORO (DRIP)
PORO
KIRARI (GLINT)
GONNA BLACK-MAIL HER SO HARD
WOW
MAIKO...
.....

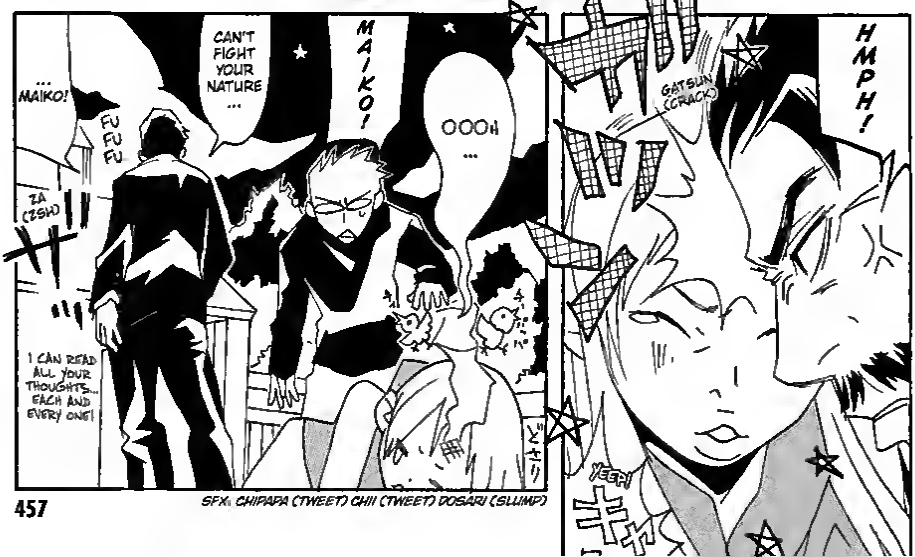
!!?
NI (GMIRK) NI
DOES HE HAVE A HEART NOW?
FROM SENILITY?
PAPA!
NAAH!
BEEP!
OF COURSE, OF COURSE, I'M SORRY...
MY BAD.
PAPA ...
CHARGE!!
BA (LEAP)
!?
HOLY MACKEREL!
PICHA (FLAP) PICHA
HELMET SHIGA POLICE
BASAA (FWOOSH)
DORA (FWOOSH)
PA
KASHA
KASHA (FLASH)
PA (GLOW)
!!!!?

I SUSPECTED THIS MIGHT HAPPEN, SO I CALLED THE PREFECTURAL POLICE'S SWAT UNIT!
CATHERINE!
MAMAN!!
HA-HA-HA! WASN'T THAT FUNNY?
GRRR! (DAMMIT!)
DAMN! SHE STRONG, LIKE GORILLA!
POLICE.
¿WARA (SMUSH)
POLICE
DO (STOMP)
SHIT!
I WAS CARE-LESS!
DO
POLICE.
POLICE.
VICTORY IN NUMBERS!
WARA
POLICE.
POLICE.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT: THAT'S JUST THE WAY SHE IS!
SNIFF!
MOMMY
KNOWING WHAT SHE'S LIKE, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE HER INTO CUSTODY AGAIN.
BRILLIANTLY DONE
MY APOLO-GIES FOR OUR TARDI-NESS, OLD CHAP.
POLICE BIG SHOT
YO.
CAN I ASK YOU TWO
WHY YOU'RE HERE?
POLICE
YOUR FAMILY'S MESSED UP.
.....

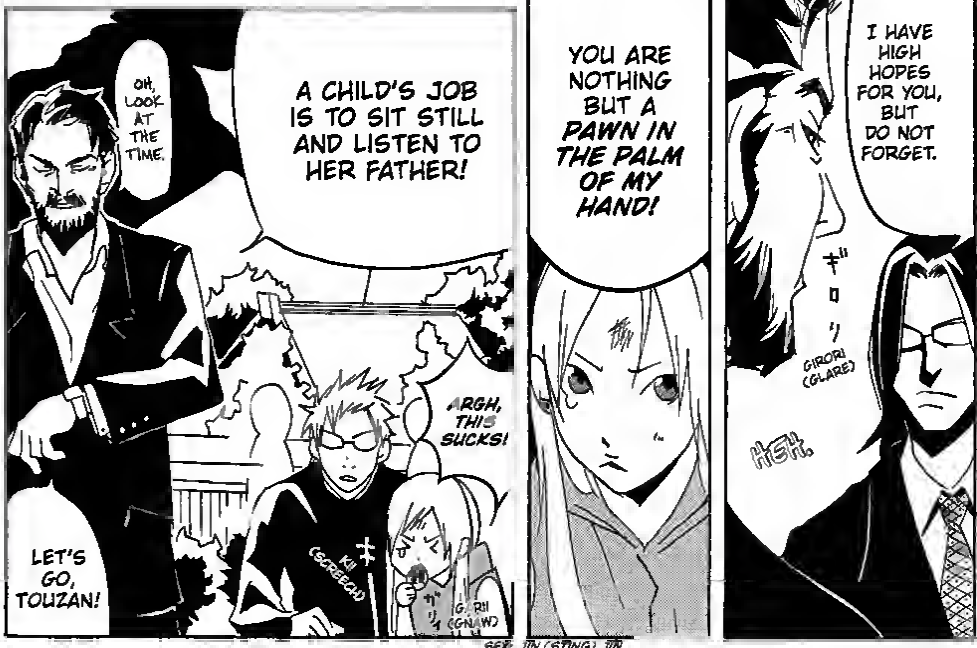
!!
KUSUN (SNIFF)
..ALOOF, INCOHERENT CHICK...
THAT HAUGHTY...
...ABUSIVE...
...SELFISH...
SHE, OF ALL PEOPLE...
...IS CRYING!?
.....
POLIN
JARI (SCRAPE)
...SHE'S JUST A NORMAL GIRL AFTER ALL?
BEHIND THE MASK...
GOKIN (CRUNCH)
HMPH!!
DOGU (SMUNCH)

SFX: KUWAPPA (SHOCKED)

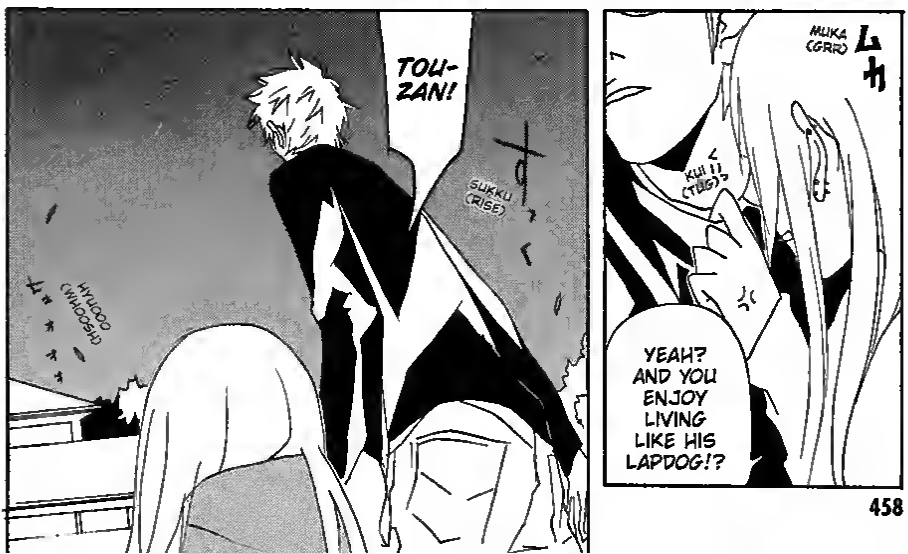
NOT AFTER I SPENT YEARS AND YEARS PRETENDING TO BE DADDY'S GIRL!
I HAD TOUZAN FOOLED TOO
I'M A GEENYUS
HEEEEH!
YURARI (SWAY)
やらーり
フフフ
HEH HEH HEH
BWEH-HEH-HEH! I BET DEAR OL' DAD NEVER HAD AN INKLING THAT I'D BE THE ONE AFTER HIS GUTS!

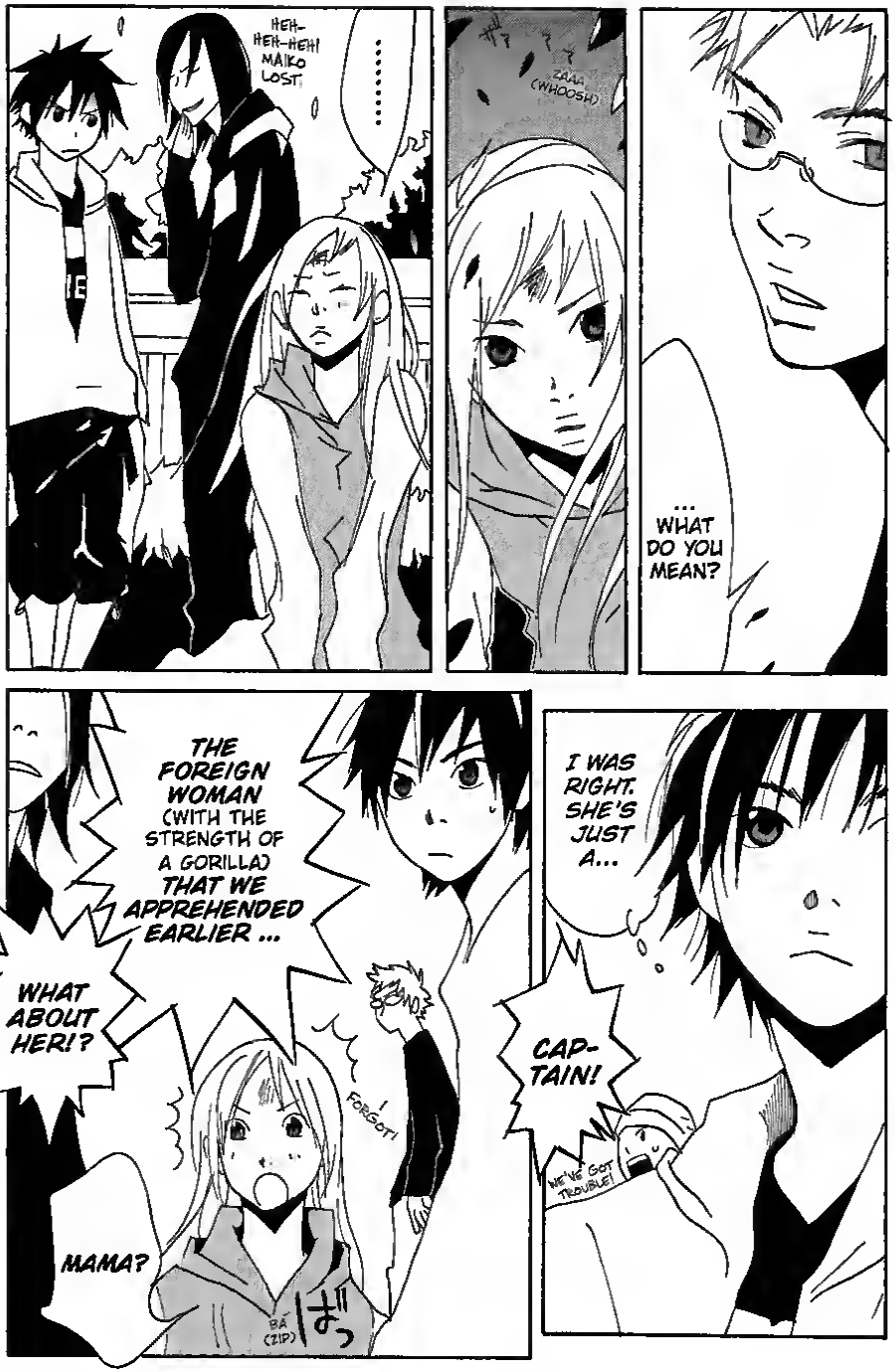


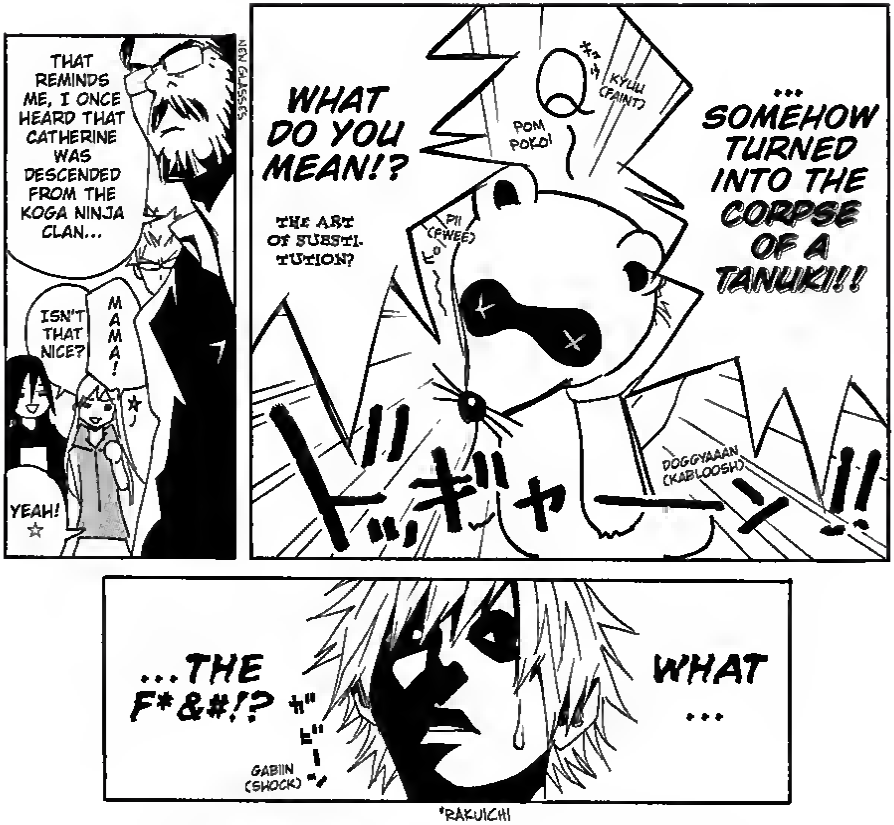
SFX: CHIPAPA (TWEET) CHII (TWEET) DOSARI (SLUMP)

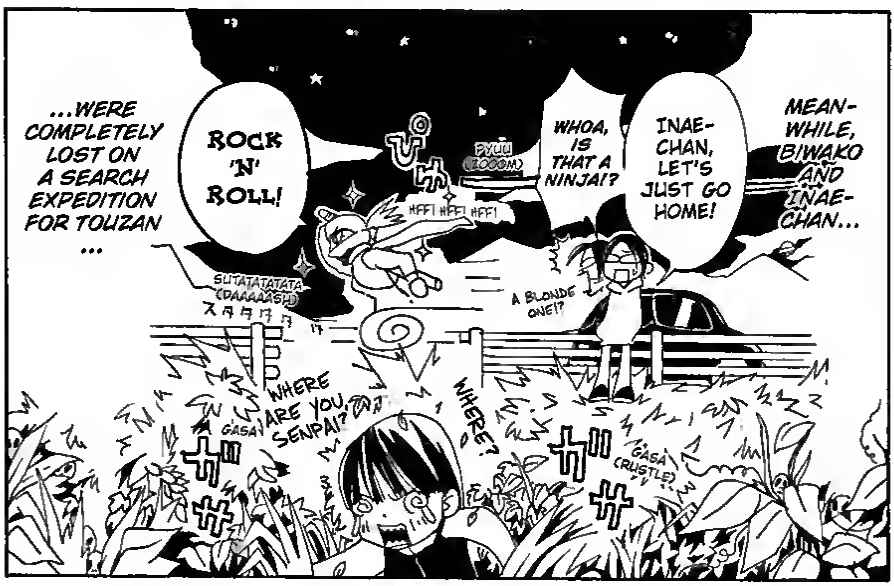

OH, LOOK AT THE TIME.
A CHILD'S JOB IS TO SIT STILL AND LISTEN TO HER FATHER!
LET'S GO, TOUZAN!
KU (SCREECH)
ARGH, THIS SUCKS!
GU-RI (GNAW)
YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A PAWN IN THE PALM OF MY HAND!
I HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU, BUT DO NOT FORGET.
GIRORI (GLARE)
HSH.

SFX: JIN (STING) JIN




HEH-HEH-HEH! MAIKO LOST!
.....
ZAAA (WHOOSH)
... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I WAS RIGHT. SHE'S JUST A...
CAP-TAIN!
WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
THE FOREIGN WOMAN (WITH THE STRENGTH OF A GORILLA) THAT WE APPREHENDED EARLIER ...
WHAT ABOUT HER!?
I FORGOT!
MAMA?
BA (ZIP)


THAT REMINDS ME, I ONCE HEARD THAT CATHERINE WAS DESCENDED FROM THE KOGA NINJA CLAN...
ISN'T THAT NICE?
MAMA!
YEAH!
CASSAGNA
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
THE ART OF SUBSTI-TUTION?
KYUU (PAIN!?)
POM POKO!
PII (PWEE)
...SOMEHOW TURNED INTO THE CORPSE OF A TANUKI!!
DOGGYAAAN (KABLOOSH)
...THE F*&#!?
GABIIN (SHOCK)
WHAT...
©RAKUICHI


...WERE COMPLETELY LOST ON A SEARCH EXPEDITION FOR TOUZAN...
ROCK 'N' ROLL!
SUTATATATATA (DAAAAASH)
PYUU (ZOOM)
HFF! HFF! HFF!
WHOA, IS THAT A NINJA!?
A BLONDE ONE!?
INAE-CHAN, LET'S JUST GO HOME!
MEAN-WHILE, BIWAKO AND INAE-CHAN...
GASA!
WHERE ARE YOU, SENPAI?
WHERE?
GASA! (RUSTLE)

to be continued in SASAMEKE OMNIBUS #02

TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness, if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

-cchi: A cute, friendly, diminutive suffix generally used among girls.

-senpai: A suffix used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers.

-sensei: A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

TITLE

"***Sasameke***" is the imperative form of the verb "whisper." (e.g. "Don't shout! Whisper!")

PAGE 16

Kanzan! Aruchun: A TV show from 2001-2002 about a group of presenters, led by actor Takaya Yamauchi, comedian Kendo Kobayashi, and actress Ayako Fujitani (daughter of Steven Seagal), walking and exploring around a particular location. The show's subtitle was "We are walkaholics!"

PAGE 20

Dakai Misa: The name of this store means "huge store" in Japanese. Also, the restaurant named "Gohan Death" in the corner is a funny way of romanizing "We serve food."

PAGE 24

Little food toys: Also known as "*shokugan*," this is a particular niche of toy collecting centered around little plastic miniatures of food items.

PAGE 35

Udon: A type of noodle that is thicker and larger than ramen. Since it's bigger and harder to control, you have to be very careful about splashing the broth.

PAGE 40

Naji-shiki: The title of an infamous and influential avant-garde manga, "*Wind-Up Toys*," drawn by Yoshiharu Tsuge in 1968. The surreal short story is about a boy who is stung by a jellyfish and seeks a doctor, and is said to be based on a dream of Tsuge's.

Zero-shiki: The Japanese name for the "Zero" fighter planes that were used to great effect in World War II.

PAGE 54

Tengu: A wild, proud type of mountain-dwelling goblin found in Japanese folklore. Some accounts of *tengu* describe them as birdlike, which means the bird-shaped figurines shown previously are probably the "tengu" described on the poster.

PAGE 62

Gacha gacha: Little plastic figurines bought out of a vending machine, also called "capsule toys" because they come encased in little plastic capsules. Compared to the toys you might find in North America, Japanese *gacha gacha* toys can be quite expensive (the equivalent of several dollars) and much larger and fancier. The word "*gacha gacha*" is the onomatopoeia for the turning of the crank on the vending machine. Also called "*gachapon*" or "*gashapon*."

PAGE 119

"I won't need the push of my farts": The catch phrase of 1980s anime wrestling superstar Kinnikuman (Muscle Man). Apparently, it was supposed to be a statement of confidence.

PAGE 120

In the second panel — as well as in many other instances when team uniforms appear in this manga — the English writing on the shirts is changed to read something different in Japanese. "*Kantoku*" means "coach," and "*hoketsu*" means "reserve" or "benchwarmer."

PAGE 131

Full Time: Full time marks the end of ninety minutes of gameplay, the length of a full match. However, if there have been injuries or deliberate game delays, the referee may opt to add more time to the game.

PAGE 138
Prizes: The Naoki Prize and Akutagawa Prize are two highly prestigious Japanese literary awards. The Naoki Prize is given to young writers, and the Akutagawa Prize is considered the highest honor in Japanese literature.

PAGE 144
Sumi Junichi: A Japanese news announcer, journalist, and TV personality. His name is printed on Inae's shirt in Japanese order, in English we would normally call him Junichi Sumi.

PAGE 152
Watson and Holmes: In the original, Matsun and Inae actually reference Yoshio Kobayashi and Kogoro Akechi, well-known detectives from the work of Japanese mystery writer Edogawa Rampo. Akechi was a Sherlock Holmes-type detective who first appeared in Rampo's *Case of the Murder on D-Slope*, published in 1925. In later stories, Akechi goes on to found the Boy Detectives Club, of which his adopted son, Kobayashi, is the leader.

PAGE 155
Diet: The Diet is the governing legislative body in Japan.

PAGE 182
Soccer Positions:
Defenders (DF) are positioned closest to their own goal and primarily act as support for their goalkeeper.
Midfielders (MF) work the middle of the field, aggressively trying to reclaim the ball from the other team, break up the other team's offensive plays, and deliver the ball to their strikers closer to the opposing goal.
Forwards (FW) or strikers are the goal-scorers for their team, waiting close to the opponent's goal to drive the ball home.

PAGE 187
Gusuku: Touzan's brother's name is written with the kanji for "castle." However, the word "*gusuku*" itself is the Okinawan name for castle, and definitely not a standard given name in Japan.

PAGE 194
Kyosen Ohashi: A TV show host and politician. The height of his success came from the 1960s to the 1980s. The line about "crunching leaves" comes from a commercial for a ballpoint pen he shot in 1969, and he runs the "OK Gift Shop" (named after the Japanese order of his initials, O-hashi K-yosen) in Canada.

PAGE 204
Joe: While Gusuku's name is Okinawan for "castle," one way of saying castle in regular Japanese is the word "jo." Sometimes when Japanese men with "jo" in their name (Joichi, Joichiro, etc.) use it as a nickname, they will spell it "Joe," as in the Japanese actor Joe Odagiri and the classic manga/anime series *Ashita no Joe* ("Tomorrow's Joe")

PAGE 229
Harajuku: This section of Tokyo is well known for its fashion scene. On weekends, the unique street dress of Harajuku is punctuated by gothic lolitas, visual kei styles, and cosplayers who gather to talk fashion or shop one of at Herajuku's many clothing stores.

PAGE 233
Zeon: A fictional faction from the original *Mobile Suit Gundam* series. Similar in ambition and ideals to Nazi Germany, they are the primary antagonists of the series' main character, Amuro Ray. The phrase "Sieg Zeon" stems from a speech within the series given by the leader of Zeon.

PAGE 238
***Porco Rosso*:** A 1992 animated film by Hayao Miyazaki and Studio Ghibli, the story of a WWI Italian fighter pilot who is turned into a pig and flies his plane around the Adriatic Sea.

Page 251
Seeding: Rather than selecting teams at random to determine who will face off against whom in a tournament, some tournament brackets are set up based on the team's overall rank in a particular league. This practice is called "seeding." Often, these tournaments are arranged so that the best teams don't face off until later in the competition. For example, one common method of setting up a seeded tournament is to have the first seed, or top-ranked team, play their first match against the lowest-ranked team, all but guaranteeing the best team a spot in the next round of competition. Then the second seed team might face off against the second-lowest seed team, giving them better odds for a win, and so forth.

PAGE 254
Hat Trick: A hat trick means that a single player has scored three goals in one game.

PAGE 258

Santana Turn: One of the special techniques the character Carlos Santana uses in the epic soccer manga *Captain Tsubasa*.

Page 267
Own Goal: An own goal is a term used when a player scores a goal against his or her own team, usually accidentally. When the statistics for the game are counted, an own goal is credited toward the player, even though it cost his or her team a point.

PAGE 280
Itano Circus: An animation style perfected by Ichiro Itano and exhibited in the *Macross* anime, characterized by highly frenetic and acrobatic action in aerial or space battles.

PAGE 301
Sengoku era: Literally the "country at war" era, this was a period of Japanese history from 1467 to 1603 AD in which there was no shogun with military control over the entirety of Japan, but a multitude of local daimyo who fought one another until Tokugawa Ieyasu finally succeeded in establishing control and formed a shogunate.

PAGE 306
Savanna: A comedy duo from Osaka. One of the members, Masumi Yagi, has a great variety of absurdist nonsense gags in his repertoire, comprised of a non-sequitor word or phrase with an accompanying physical gesture. Among them are examples such as "Spoon!" and "Surprise muscle!"

PAGE 311
***Sukiyaki*:** A large "nabe" style stew featuring beef, tofu, spring onions, mushrooms, and noodles. Often served at end-of-the-year parties.

Page 338
Carding: During a soccer game, the referee uses cards to penalize an individual player for an infraction. The yellow card is used to warn a player who has shown unsportsmanlike conduct, committed a foul, delayed the game, entered or left the field without permission, and so on. If a player receives a red card, he or she is immediately ejected from the game. A player may be red-carded for more serious fouls or unsportsmanlike behavior, or if he or she has already received a cautionary yellow card and has committed a second offense.

PAGE 352
***Yokai*:** Traditional Japanese spooks and goblins, which come in a variety of shapes and sizes. A "hyakki-yako" is a legendary procession of *yokai* that you might stumble across in the dead of night . if you're unlucky.

PAGE 357
Tange: A parody of Danpei Tenge, a character in *Ashita no Joe*. Tange is the cantankerous old man who acts as Joe's trainer and a sort of father figure.

PAGE 427
***Kappa*:** A creature from Japanese folklore. *Kappas* live in the river and are usually depicted as resembling turtles with duck-billed mouths. They have scraggly hair that hangs down from the sides, but the top of their heads are bald.

PAGE 447
***Namu Amida Butsu*:** A short recitation (called a "nanbutsu" in Japanese) that means roughly, "I rely upon the compassion of Amida Buddha." It is often chanted as a prayer of sorts.

PAGE 460
***Pom Poko*:** The title of a Studio Ghibli animated film featuring a cast of *tanukis* (raccoon dogs).

***Koga ninja*:** Historically, one of the two main schools of ninjutsu alongside the rival *Iga ninja*.

THE FOLLOWING IMAGES WERE PRINTED

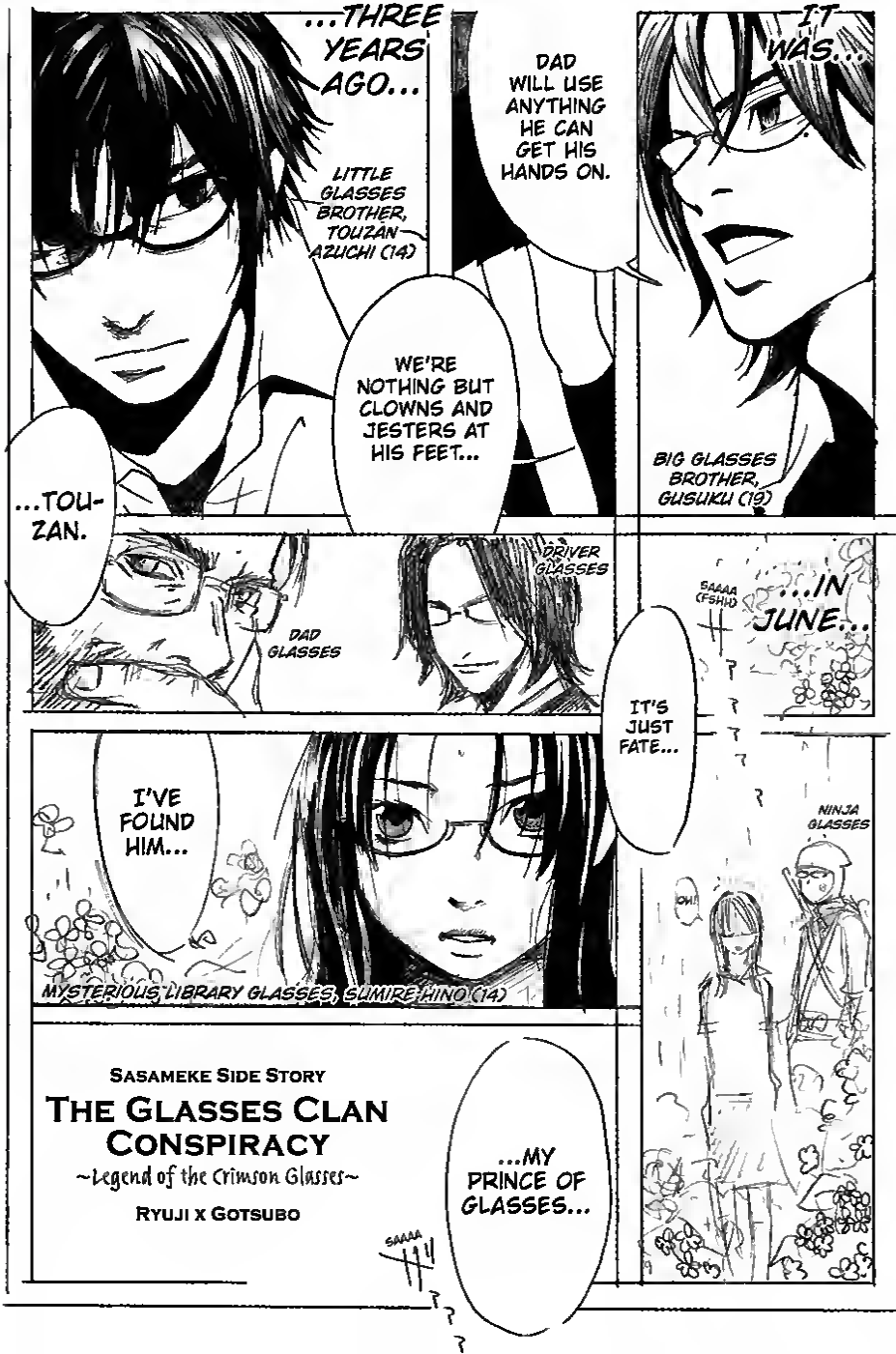
UNDER THE DUST JACKETS OF THE ORIGINAL

JAPANESE VOLUMES OF *SASAMEKE*.

PLEASE ENJOY.

沙瑣冥界
転生編
SASAMEIKAI
SAND CHAINS
WORLD OF
DARKNESS
REINCARNA-
TION SAGA
ゴンボメリュウ死

AND WHEN THE DOORS OF HELL OPENED THRICE,
MAIKO SCREAMED OUT...
"MAIKO ARMED PHENOMENON!!"
...BUT IT WAS A LIE.
END
終


...THREE YEARS AGO...
LITTLE GLASSES BROTHER, TOUZAN AZUCHI (14)
DAD WILL USE ANYTHING HE CAN GET HIS HANDS ON.
IT WAS...
BIG GLASSES BROTHER, GUSUKU (19)
WE'RE NOTHING BUT CLOWNS AND JESTERS AT HIS FEET...
...TOU-ZAN.
DRIVER GLASSES
DAD GLASSES
...IN JUNE...
SAAAA (FSHH)
IT'S JUST FATE...
I'VE FOUND HIM...
MYSTERIOUS LIBRARY GLASSES, SUMIRE HINO (14)
NINJA GLASSES
OH!
SASAMEKE SIDE STORY
THE GLASSES CLAN CONSPIRACY
~Legend of the Crimson Glasses~
RYUJI X GOTSUBO
...MY PRINCE OF GLASSES...
SAAAA

TOU-ZAN ...
FAKE GLASSES, MAIKO—
AMEN
...AM I GOING TO DIE...?
ME?
FWA! FWA! FWA!
YOU NEED THE ORIHALCON GLASSES THAT CAN REFORM THE WORLD...
GLASSES HERMIT
WE'RE GONNA CREATE A WORLD OF THE GLASSES, BY THE GLASSES, AND FOR THE GLASSES!!
YEAH!
A GLASSES PARADISE!
GLOVE GLASSES 4 LIFE
SHADOW GLASSES TRIBE
UGH!!
SHUT THE HELL UP!!
HUP!
NURSE'S OFFICE
HERE WE GO.
20/20 VISION !!?
!?
AZUCHI TOUZAN S10 HEIGHT 5'9" EYESIGHT 20/20 RICH FAMILY PLAYER
UNBELIEVABLE!
TOUZAN-KUN...
AM I NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU?
TOKUN (BADUMP)
PRIESTESS GLASSES
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!
...THE LEGENDARY GLASSES-BEAST MEGA GLASSOTRON, MASTER OF (BLAH, BLAH, BLAH)
IT'S THE GLASS-POCALYPSE! USE THE GLASSES PRIESTESS TO CALL...
SCIENTIST GLASSES
POOF!
ASSISTANT GLASSES
FATHER AND SON, GLASSES AND GLASSES. THE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS OF PEOPLE PASSING BY ONE ANOTHER IN THE NIGHT, JUST LIKE A MANGA ARTIST AND AN EDITOR... THAT'S RIGHT, THIS IS REJECTED! DUMPED! CANCELLED!!
HOW COME!?
GLAU-COMA.
SU (SSK)
FROSTY GLASSES
GLA—
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!
TOKUN
GLA—
TOKUN
FAKE GLASSES

SASAMEKEv3
TOUR HAMMER
(121,000,000 MEGAWATT OUTPUT)
HAVING FINALLY ACQUIRED THAT WHICH ALL GIRLS DESIRE THE MOST—THE PUFFY-SLEEVED DRESS—MAIKO FOUGHT BACK AGAINST THE ENCROACHING WHITE CAT WITH HER HOLY WEAPON.
BUT BE WARY, MAIKO! A BLACK CAT APPROACHES FROM BEHIND!
GAIESBURG-KUN

IT WAS THE MANY-LEGGED CAT-MODEL TANK "KAGECHIYO," PILOTED BY NORITSUGU MAIBARA!
THIS BATTLE IS ABOUT TO GET MAD BUSY! BANGA-RANG!!!

BWA-HA-HA-HA...
EVEN MORE MEANWHILE, AZUCHI-DAD...
MAIKO-MUM
SASAMEKE v4
SIGNS: (ABOVE) AZUCHI CONSTRUCTION, (BELOW) GLASSES
MWA HA HA HA HA!!
HAAAA HA-HA-HAAAA!!
HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!!
THE PROJECT IS GOING WELL.
THE PRIME MINISTER IS ON THE LINE, SIR!
I KNEW IT..HE MUST BE KILLED!!
...WAS UP TO SOME INCREDIBLY CRAZY BUSINESS!!!

I WISH I COULD DRAW A TRULY ANYTHING-GOES MANGA. I WISH, I WISH, I WISH!

...IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT STAGE...

... MAIKO ...

IT IS THE VOICE OF THE GREAT SPIRIT...

I CAN HEAR SOMETHING, MASTER...

MOST MEANWHILEST OF ALL, MAIKO WAS TRAINING DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS OF INDIA...

AND ON THAT DAY, ANTONIO FLEW.
HE FLEW HIGHER AND FARTHER THAN ANY MAN HAD EVER FLOWN...
PUKA
PUKA (PUFF)
HAIRY!
TAKE ME WITH YOU!
BANZAI!
KYAA!
GOOD JOB!
THAT IS SO RAD!
YOU DID IT, ANTONI!
SO BEAUTIFUL!
BRILLIANTONIO!!

...WAS EVER SO SLIGHTLY SOFT-ENED...

AND THE UNI-VERSE...

SASAMEKE PART 1

END

SASAMEKE 1

RYUJI x GOTSUBO

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